

ROCK THE RABBIT *FORUM WIRED STATE OF SOUND*
INFOGRAPHIC THE PATH OF THE BANDA

PLAYBOY

PHILIPPINES

EMBER 2013



PLAYBOY'S 2013

MUSIC GUIDE!

RICO J. PUNO

MAN OF THE MONTH

DAVID BOWIE

THE INTERVIEW

**20Q THE
OKTAVES**

ROCKSTAR CARD

FINE TUNING

OPM

SHINJI TANAKA
CARLOS GARCHITORENA
KIMPOY FELICIANO
POCHOY LABOG
ROBERTO SEÑA

30 ACTS TO
LISTEN TO
NOW

→ INCLUDING
MY BLOODY VALENTINE
RICHARD THOMPSON
KENDRICK LAMAR
VIJAY IYER
ELLE VARNER
IDENTIKIT
EARTHMOVER
ANG BANDANG SHIRLEY
THE STRANGENESS

GLOC-9

RAP ROYALE

GWEN GARCI

ENDURING SIREN

Yael YUZON

SONG SLINGER

ENTERTAINMENT FOR MEN



18
AND ABOVE

ISSN 2012-0281



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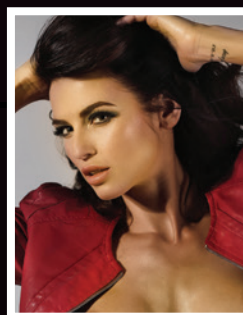
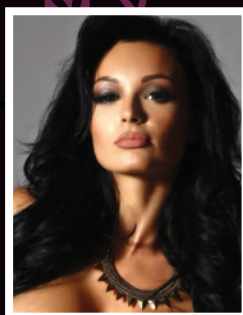
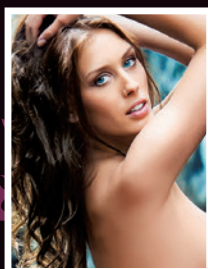
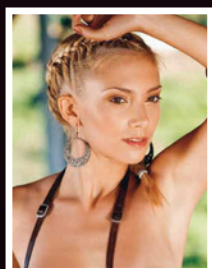


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EDITOR'S NOTE

September is always a special month as we trot out yet another music issue. We tune in to music ingénues along with esteemed artists to perk up your ears with only what is worth hearing.

Veteran music journalist Rob Tannenbaum raises the volume and relieves your playlist conundrums as he gathers the best reasons to love music on PLAYBOY'S 2013 Music Guide. Robert Soriano, PLAYBOY Philippines' own, supplies a Pinoy Music Guide that comes down easy for a sweeter mixtape. He also thoroughly geeks-out as he deciphers how the Internet has changed the way we meet musicians and how we listen to music.

As music has always stimulated the juices of our creativity, an issue dedicated to just that would not be complete without the movers and the shakers from the local scene. We urge you to stomp your feet with the anthemic mix of unsung music heroes such as sound engineer Shinji Tanaka, heralds of new indie and new music Carlos Garchitorena and the young minds of NDFY.

The Oktaves have succumbed to the tag, 'superband', and explains how well this sits with them. I think we should agree that this question on our 20Q should be the last though, and just cheers for not giving their musical genius a rest. Your shuffle gets exciting with slick precious vintage tracks. Press play for music appreciation with a PLAYBOY Infographic on the Path of the Banda. Cameron Crowe sat down with David Bowie in 1976 for a PLAYBOY Interview and this timeless material could be the very link to his evolution as an artist. Learn how old tricks find room in your playbook—if you are a budding musician, that is. After you take cues from Bowie and Crowe, go all out nostalgic as Lauren Acurantes dissects the complexity that is Rico J. Puno. This is as close as you could get to his impossible cool.

There is no logic to the superb fusion of music, sex and women. We are not complaining. The Playmate trio Britany Nola, Ciara Price, and Raquel Pomplun plays to a trance of color as a tribute to the sexy side of music. While Asian beauty Sai will get you mushy as she tugs at your heartstrings, Playmate Joyen will get your senses synthesized with her wild exploration on knots and ropes.

One is a spitfire wordsmith; the other writes songs and acts like a bad boy. Cover girls find this individuality attractive apparently, that we have allowed Gwen Garci to haul them to our covers. Yael Yuzon and Spongecola find their way relentless with their brand of music, ten years running, and still influential. But what's next for Spongecola? Gloc9 steadily fuels his larynx with the motivation to uphold the legacy that is Francis M. Get on the story to know how we deem him as street king.

Yes, she is Gwen Garci. You loved her then, and we will not pass up on this opportunity for you to embrace her totally unbridled seductive encore. She is affectionately bared.

This time, you tune in to get warm and nice in the ears. And you are very much welcome.

Raphael Soriano
RAPHAEL SORIANO

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PLAYBILL



EIZEN BARLETA

Viewing the world as a "beautifully haphazard collage of creative challenges," Eizen is a true optimist and the proverbial wild child. This word-weaver is a rookie, and as he thinks it is strange not to be strange, we are allowing him this time to get creative. He likes singing and admires the musical crafts of Ed Sheeran and Jason Reeves. He has hopped on board the PLAYBOY turf to take his first steps towards achieving his dream.



JAMES SANTOS

His fondness for playing online games and everything digital steadily grows as the internet-savvy James Santos gives in to a career in design and website development. Finding his true passion may have taken time, but he now finds comfort in a room filled with colleagues with whom he can further study and perfect his craft. PLAYBOY is admittedly his life's surprise. He notes Tracy Chapman's *Fast Car* as his favorite song of all time, saying it challenges him to never give up in life.



LIA CONTRERAS

As a stylist for more than three years, Lia believes that styling should revolve around and cut through different genres. She has simple rules for style: keep it clean but not boring. She loves to travel and gets inspiration from the people she meets. To get new ideas and stimulate creativity, Lia listens to house and indie music.



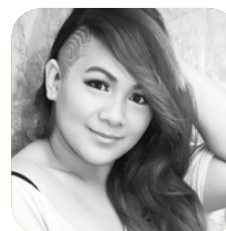
JUAN MIGUEL SEVILLA

Based in Hong Kong, Juan Miguel Sevilla works as a screenwriter. He received the Cinemabuhay grant in 2006 and 2008, the latter becoming his directorial debut, *Cul de Sac*. Since then he has worked on some of the biggest hits for Star Cinema including *My Amnesia Girl* and *Unofficially Yours*.



ROBERT SORIANO

What Robert lacks in musical talent, he makes up for with genuine passion and appreciation for music -- that most sentimental and eloquent expression of thoughts and emotions. In this issue, he talks about the Internet and its impact on the music industry. His favorite artists are Incubus, Mae, Motion City Soundtrack, Death Cab for Cutie, Jenny Owen Youngs, Up Dharma Down and the Eraserheads.



LESLEY JANE PASCUAL

Lesley Jane Pascual is a multi-talented, self-taught and very much driven makeup artist. She attributes her innate talent for creativity to her profession as a special education teacher "which really needs 100% creativity (and patience)." Not only is she a makeup artist and a teacher, she also used to be an online radio DJ. She loves alternative pop/rock music.



30 GWEN GARCI

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By Lauren Acurantes & Robert Soriano

A candid, humorous conversation with The Oktaves about being a 'superband', their internal dynamics, and using their rockstar cards to get lucky.

40 MAN OF THE MONTH

RICO J. PUNO By Lauren Acurantes

Music and nostalgia do go together. The very heart of this crooner still beats the heart of a young man with his sharp wit and sometimes cringe-inducing humor. Rico J. Puno is our September Man of the Month.

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Our Miss September, Joyen Santos is well versed in the exquisite and explicit art of rope, bondage and BDSM. Do we have your attention now?

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Beau Hesling's supernova first exploded as Holland's February Playmate of the Month in 2012. Since then, she has appeared on 27 Playboy editions all over the world.

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Playmates Britany Nola, Raquel Pomplun, and Ciara Price bare all for our irresistible tribute to sex, music and the women who love both.

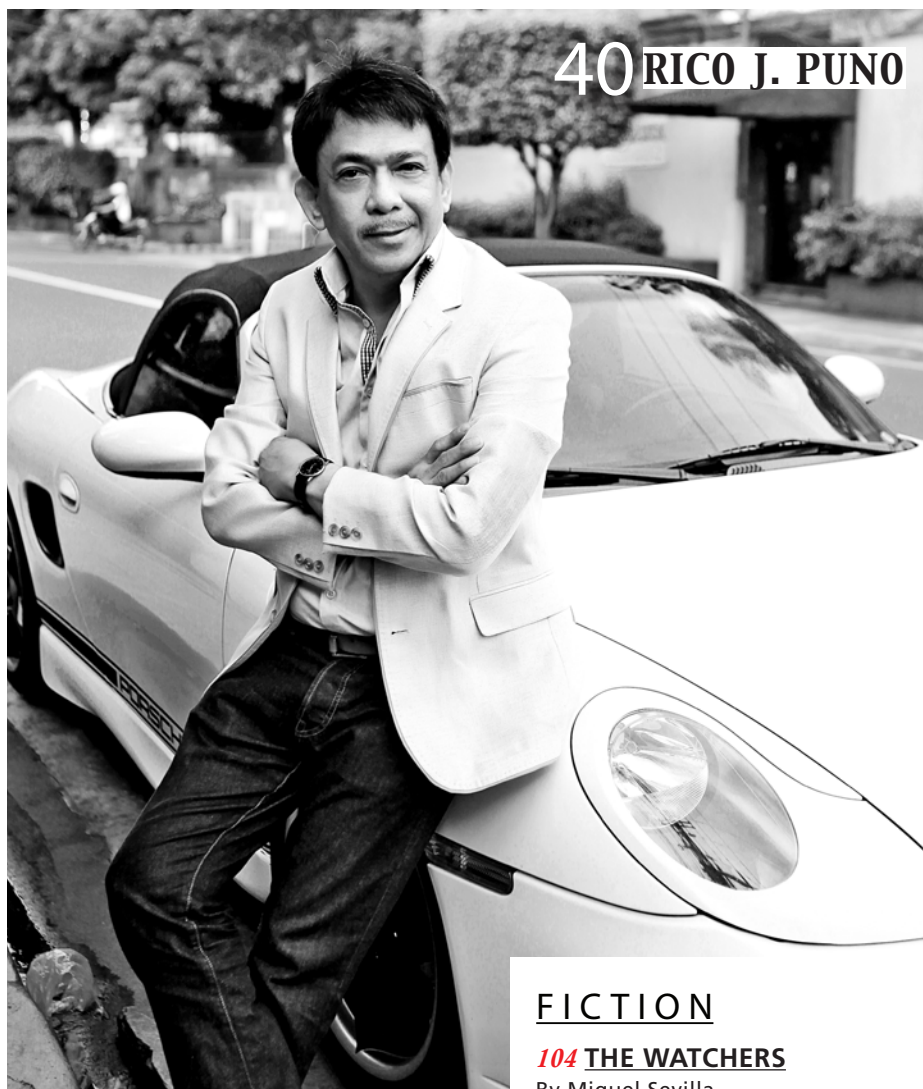
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In this month's fiction, Miguel Sevilla tells a unique short story crafted from shelved, vague memories.

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There's no denying that Filipinos have a deep connection to music. In this infographic, we trace how the Pinoy music scene, more specifically the pinoy banda, has flourished as the years went by.



10 GADGET

ION IT34 Duo Deck Ultra-Portable USB Turntable with Cassette Deck.

DEAR PLAYBOY

HOPE FLOATS

I think the growth of Philippine cinema was stunted in the last decade. Local directors and filmmakers must be alarmed by this situation. I miss the more sensible Filipino films, if only actually artsy. Thanks for the Forum article by Don Jaucian and for the entertainment issue.

Alberto, 34, via e-mail

You are very much welcome. While Jaucian's article was not a full discourse on local film and filmmaking, it was an invaluable insight into the current state of our industry. We actually think it's genuinely enough of a conversation starter at your random parties. We have laid down options on film and cinema for clarity on culture and we hope this gets everyone to

patronize our own; there is rather a bigger room for optimism.

BEST EVER

Good going for producing hot covers month after month. So far, this year has one of your best. This may seem late, but your March cover is truly amazing. I bought both covers for that month. I hope to see more blazing covers for the second half of the year!

Alwin Meneses, 26

We try to push the boundaries on creativity in every square inch of PLAYBOY Philippines. We value your appreciation and we would like to assure you that the covers for the rest year would be equally stunning. PLAYBOY Bunny Arriane would be so thrilled to know you liked both covers she was in.

Maybe send her a message online?

SPOTLIGHT AT LAST

Finally, a magazine that took notice of Princess Snell's allure! I've been following her since 2011. I really wanted her to be the star of a men's magazine. I'm glad you took the risk. She is so seductive in her photos. Her silky skin is just heavenly. Thanks for featuring her!

Rigor, 25, via e-mail

We couldn't agree more! It was not so much of a risk, but a worthwhile challenge to put her in a new light, with a fresher look, as if she took on a lead role for a movie. We're glad that you like how her pictorials turned out. We hope you get to meet our leading lady in one of our events soon.

HOT ENOUGH

I'm a new collector of your mag. I am impressed with the articles and the pictorials. I noticed, though, that your photo shoots are a bit sheepish compared to the ones published in the US. I hope to see Wendy Valdez and Marian Rivera on the cover soon.

Meiladen Carlos, 21

We think Marian and Wendy would make for really sultry cover girls, too. These ladies are not only beautiful, but are also interesting showbiz trailblazers. Be on the look out. While we aim

for the risqué, we also take into consideration the better angles and poise of the ladies we feature. Some may be more daring, of course, as the Playmate, Asian Beauty, or cover girl, could naturally smolder in images, and it would be difficult to pass up. We try to balance taste with risk while still exploring perspective in photographing women. Thank you for your support.



I am a fan of long-sleeved button down shirts. I often wear chambrays and sweaters even if the day is not breezy enough. Fashion over comfort is my kind of deal. What is your take on this?

Lyndon, 26, via e-mail

As long as they are worn during appropriate times and places, then, by all means, wear them. Consider how compromising your comfort could be getting in the way of other people's comfort though. Do you sweat a lot, given this erratic weather? Do people avoid you because of your sartorial choices? Does the fit of your clothes make you look sharp? Do their colors, texture and style get more attention than your face? If you say yes to one of these questions, then maybe it is time to re-think the sleeved shirts.

I am a father of four kids, their ages 7, 8, 11, and 12. My wife just left for work abroad. I admit I have a short patience for children. I easily get angry. Now that my partner is physically away, how can

PLAYBOY ADVISOR

I control the kids without being too much of a terror daddy?

Fred, 37, via e-mail

Establish a reward-punishment system. Be gallant on the rewards. Go light on the punishment. Imposing and implementing this system is key. Be very consistent. Children tend to ask for attention, more than the amount that you think is enough. Giving it to four is of course a struggle and a challenge. Try to be present, be around them, as much as you can. You'd be surprised at how they would start becoming more cooperative, without even you raising your voicing, or even talking.

My girlfriend and I have been living with her parents under one roof. It is my girlfriend's request to live in their house since

her parents approve of us already. However, I want to tell my girl that I want to eventually move to our own place soon. How do I start this conversation without interrupting the arrangement in her parent's house?

Houston, 28, via e-mail

If you have all the aspects of your impending domestic partnership completely covered, then you may initiate the talk. By now you should be able to assess her parents' level of protectiveness, so be ready for the questions that might be raised. A family member detaching from the home could be an emotional time. It is looking like the only assurance the parents should have is your genuine commitment to take care of her, so better have that mind set established.



I have been dating this beautiful girl for three months now. Nothing sexual has happened between us up to this day. However, I feel that she wants me to make the first move. I am just afraid that she might think I only like her for sex. I am also confused if three months is long enough for something sexual to happen between us without her thinking I am taking advantage out of lust.

Marlon, 25, via e-mail

What kind of cues are you getting? Does her body language and innuendos really connote desire? Define your expectations along with assumptions. As for the time frame to wait to have sex, that rather varies according to your values, your outlook on waiting and your sexual chemistry. Talk about sex. If you have qualms about initiating the conversation, clue her in, and then find some good timing.

OUR COVERS

GWEN GARCI, GLOC 9 AND Yael YUZON

PHOTOGRAPHED BY RAYMOND SALDAÑA
MAKE UP BY DARVIN MACABALES
HAIR BY ANDREW JARDENIL
STYLED BY LIA CONTRERAS



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Editor-in-Chief RAPHAEL SORIANO
Creative Director RAYMOND SALDAÑA
Art Director JOEL 'OWEN' REYES
Editorial Writer ROBERT SORIANO
Layout Artists & Illustrators JEFFREY INFANTE
RAVE APILADO
DEA MENDOZA
Editorial Assistant EIZEN BARLETA

COPY EDITOR
LAUREN ACURANTES

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
YANNA ACOSTA, CYRIAN AGUJO, NIÑO YU BARRIOS, JASON INOCENCIO,
JUAN MIGUEL SEVILLA, ROB TANNENBAUM

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS & ILLUSTRATORS
RENÉ DE HAAN, PATRICK KAAS, TONY KELLY, CHARLES MASTERS,
FRANCO RAYMUNDO, FINNEY SANTOS, RXANDY CAPINPIN,
ACE DELA PENA, JERBY TEBELIN

CONTRIBUTING STYLIST, HAIR & MAKE-UP ARTIST
LIA CONTRERAS, ANDREW JARDENIL, JARVIN MACABALES,
FRECITA SALDAÑA, JOVIT SANGUYO, YUKIE SARTO, DICE SILVERIO, LOI VILLARAMA, KEITH
ANGELO, HANNA PECHON

INTERNS
JOSELITO JAMES SANTOS, BELMOND CANDELARIA,
KIM CAMACHO

ADVERTISING & MARKETING SALES
Advertising / External Affairs Director JAYMEE ANNE CABRERA
Business Development CHESTER CAW
Media Relations Head & Sr. Advertising Asst. JOBIE REPRADO
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ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
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Circulation Director MARIBEL DAVID-MIRANDA
Head of Circulation MARIO FERMIL
Head of Logistics MARY ANNE AMBROCIO
Circulation Coordinators RODOLFO DEL MUNDO
JORNE DELGADO

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Information Technology Head JEFFREY INFANTE

PLAYBOY SUITE
UNIT 1004 TOWER B GOLDOOP TOWERS, ESCRIBA DRIVE
ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY, 1605 PHILIPPINES
HOTLINE: 0937-PLAYBOY

LEGAL
ATTY. ABRAHAM G. ESPEJO ATTY. JHONELLE ESTRADA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ATTY. BEULAH COELI C. FIEL
MR. ALLAN L. YAP

PLAYBOY PHILIPPINES, INC.
President & Chief Executive Officer SAM CU
Executive Secretary DESIREE FERNANDEZ

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WWW.PLAYBOYPH.COM

PLAYBOY ENTERPRISES INTERNATIONAL

HUGH M. HEFNER
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U.S. PLAYBOY

Chief Executive Officer SCOTT FLANDERS
President, Playboy Media DAVID ISRAEL
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PLAYBOY INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING

SVP, Business Manager Playboy Media TOM FLORES
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SEPTEMBER 2013

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THE SHORTEST
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1860

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DE LA LUNE**
RECORDING DATES
BACK TO APRIL 9,
1860, MAKING IT
THE WORLD'S FIRST
KNOWN RECORDED
SONG.

16
WEEKS

LENGTH OF TIME THE
MARIAH CAREY
AND
BOYZ II MEN
COLLABORATION
ONE SWEET DAY
STAYED ON BILLBOARD
HOT 100'S NUMBER ONE
SPOT.

22

THE NUMBER
OF WINNERS
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HAS PRODUCED
SINCE THE
FRANCHISE
STARTED IN 2002.

Number of
tracks on
**THE
MAGNETIC
FIELDS'**
album 69 Love
Songs, making it
the album with
the most number
of songs.

69

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MILLION

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BEATLES.**

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NUMBER OF SOLD
COPIES OF
**JOSE
CHAVEZ'S**
album
**CHRISTMAS IN
OUR HEARTS**,
GIVING IT THE
TITLE "BEST
SELLING FILIPINO
ALBUM OF ALL
TIME".

2

NUMBER OF FILIPINO SOLO SINGERS
(**JAYA AND CHARICE
PEMPENGCO**)
TO ENTER THE BILLBOARD
HOT 100 CHART.

3rd
ELVIS PRESLEY'S
RANK IN *ROLLING STONE'S* LIST OF
100 GREATEST MUSIC ARTISTS.

42,753,388

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THE MUSIC ISSUE

PLAYGROUND

ISSUE NO.54

SEPTEMBER 2013



BECOMING ATTRACTION

CHRISTINE ALMADEN

At the sweet age of 18, Christine Almaden has a blinding beauty that can be intimidating. And when we say blinding, we sort of mean it ever so literally as she has a disarmingly fair and smooth complexion that actually required our photographer to adjust the camera by a few f-stops. Currently in her first year in college, Christine has joined quite a few minor pageants aside from modeling part-time. Unlike other models, she claims to be a home buddy and even a little shy. Her pictorials, however, show a wildly different Christine. She has a confidence and on-camera talent that few of our Becoming Attraction ladies have exuded in the past.

THE PLAYGROUND OFFERS WHAT EVERY PLAYBOY READER WANTS—RELEVANT REVIEWS AND INFORMATIVE LIFESTYLE NEWS. YOU, AS A PLAYBOY READER, NEED TO KNOW STUFF. AND WE ARE HERE TO GIVE YOU WHAT YOU NEED.



ION IT34 DUO DECK ULTRA-PORTABLE USB TURNTABLE WITH CASSETTE DECK

Thanks to genuine audiophiles and hipsters, vinyl has become a viable format for music again. In fact, many artists are now using the format to sell their albums! Here is where the Ion IT34 Duo Deck comes in. Aside from playing and digitally converting vinyls, the Ion IT34 also comes with a cassette deck. The set-up could plug in your USB drive for power and file transfer but can also work independently with four AA batteries. The Duo Deck also has a sleek design and built-in speakers so you can practically bring it anywhere. (Robert Soriano)



JBL BEAT RUMBLE

For around 400USD, JBL's OnBeat Rumble is one of the best wireless loudspeakers/i-device docks in the market today. Built with a Lightning connector for iPhone 5 and iPad mini, the dock features a down-firing subwoofer for a loud, thundering bass. Other devices can connect to this wireless wonder through Bluetooth and HARMAN TrueStream connection technology. In addition to that, it is also fully compatible with DJ app on tablets, making it perfect for professional DJs and wannabes alike. (R.S.)



BEOLAB 14

Yes, Bang and Olufsen speakers may be a bit out of an average human being's pay grade but when it comes to quality, very few can compete with their products. This year's BeoLab 14 is the company's premier solution for surround sound systems. This set-up promises spatial sound and uncompromising clarity to deliver unparalleled experience. Like many of the Danish company's products, the set-up is compact and aesthetically designed. The only downside for the BeoLab 14 is its cost, which would set you way, way back by around 4395USD (that's around 190,000Php!). (R.S.)



SENNHEISER MOMENTUM

Though its inline controls and microphone only works on i-devices, Sennheiser' Momentum headphones are still worth considering when you're on the lookout for high performance headphones around the 20,000php margin. Promising a rich and immersive audio experience, the Momentum has quality neodymium magnets for sound quality and circumaural headphones to isolate against external noise. It's classy, luxurious brown leather exterior is minimalistic and optimized against water, sweat, and harsh elements. (R.S.)



SHURE 55SH SERIES II MICROPHONE

Shure is known for their high class microphones used and endorsed by music legends and up and comers. The Super 55 is one such fine example of the brand's dedication to quality that has persisted throughout the years. Despite its vintage look (and feel), it's made from modern acoustic components and is engineered to produce high-quality sound. Say good-bye to nasty speaker feedback as this mic features a unique unidirectional polar pickup pattern that makes it perform well despite unfavorable acoustic conditions. (R.S.)



PLAYBOY'S PICK

DOC MARTENS 101 BOOT

British-made Doc Marten boots are known for being hardy and long lasting. Since it's made from tough materials, add to that the fact that the sole and the upper of the shoes are sewn together; it is not uncommon to see these boots last for a decade. Priced at 6,700php, these boots are known for their rugged design that made them a favorite of rock icons. (R.S.)



WALL-MOUNTED MAGNETIC CANVAS TRAY

Sometimes the simplest things provide the most utility. Have you ever had problems in finding your keys, scissors, lighters, and other utility stuff? This simple and creative solution is perfect for that. Get creative and design the canvass with your clutter! At 120USD, The Tray from eninal is made from strong neodymium magnets and can hold up small metallic items. (R.S.)



HYGGE 3012 SERIES WATCH

Minimalistic and playful, the 3012 Series is a unique timepiece designed by Finnish designer, Mats Lonngren, for Hygge. Instead of the conventional clock hands, the 3012 uses rotating discs to indicate time. Made with a polyurethane strap and stainless steel casing, the timepiece is available in various color combinations. For 180USD, this watch is simple and charming. (R.S.)



LEATHER CARE KIT FROM OTTER WAX

Priced at 30USD, this Otter Wax Leather Care Kit is a must have for goths, rockers and the emo crowd. Proper leather care ensures that those leather jackets, shoes and other goods would stay supple, waterproof and properly hydrated. This kit has three main goals: clean and remove stains and other visual anomalies, treat cracks as well as moisturize for suppleness, and revive the leather's natural shine with oils and essential vitamins. (R.S.)

SENZ° UMBRELLA

We have crazy weather here in the Philippines. With storm winds reaching up to 60km/h during storm signal 1, there is no doubt that your average umbrella won't be able to withstand those wind speeds. Good thing Senz° umbrellas are no ordinary umbrellas. With their smart design and rigorous wind tunnel testing, these umbrellas are made to endure wind speed of up to 100km/h. You can order these at travel stores and other specialized department stores nationwide. (R.S.)





BOOKS

SUICIDE GIRLS: HARD GIRLS, SOFT LIGHT

MISSY SUICIDE

Ammo Books

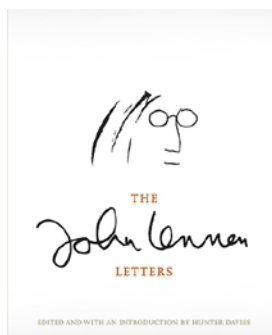
Missy Suicide stressed her passion for pin-up photography via this work. The book acknowledges a wide range of beauty that is outside the mainstream definition. This is a gravure of girls next door whose pictures are printed in gorgeous quality, producing superb, magnificent images. Women with tats and piercings are tastefully presented in every leaf of the photo book. *SuicideGirls* definitely breaks the misconception of beauty about pin-up girls the culture at large showcases. (Eizen Barleta)

THE JOHN LENNON LETTERS

JOHN LENNON

Little, Brown and Company

The book is a testimony of the late icon's life, and how he traveled his way from the early beginnings of his career to the peak of his success. The handsomely presented letters, 285 in totality, mirror Lennon's honesty, frustrations, and other feelings. Accompanied by quirky doodles and drawings by Lennon himself, *The John Lennon Letters* is a truthful collaboration of his thoughts and ideas shelved within beautifully-designed pages. After reading the book, one may feel the lamentation of losing a great artist. (E.B.)

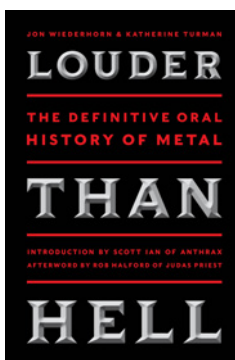


LOUDER THAN HELL: THE DEFINITIVE ORAL HISTORY OF METAL

JON WIEDERHOR, KATHERINE TURMAN

It Books

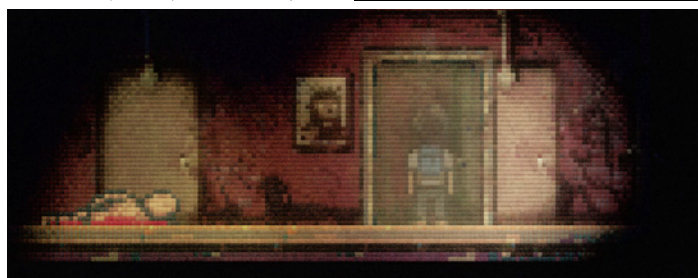
Highlighting hard rock and heavy metal music, *Louder Than Hell* is revelatory of how the genre evolved from being underground to going mainstream. The book is a comprehensive compilation of stories about touring, recording albums that became classics and the general metal scene. The authors, renowned music journalists, interviewed giant acts that pierced the metal scene in the last 25 years. Supporting the underscoring metal music tales are 48 pages of rock and rollin' full-color photographs. (E.B.)



GAMES

LONE SURVIVOR

A post-apocalypse independent game from Superflat Games and Curve Studios, *Lone Survivor* is a retro 2D game that tells the story of an unnamed survivor of a world-wide infection that turned everyone into aggressive mutants. Despite its pixelated platform gameplay, the game promises to deliver a psychological-horror experience. Players must struggle to both survive and keep the character mentally stable in a degenerate, disturbing environment. Though released on PC and Mac last year, it was just recently released on PS3 and PS Vita this quarter. (Robert Soriano)



GRAND THEFT AUTO V

GTA V is one of the most highly anticipated PS3 and Xbox 360 game for 2013. Why wouldn't it be when its predecessors all turned out to be critical successes and defined the open-world genre of going crazy with guns, vehicles and violence? In GTA V, players will get a chance to play three protagonists, a three-man army of criminals out to make it big "in the pursuit of the almighty dollar" as Rockstar Games markets it. Expect the game to hit the shelves this September 17. (R.S.)





CULTURE CLASH

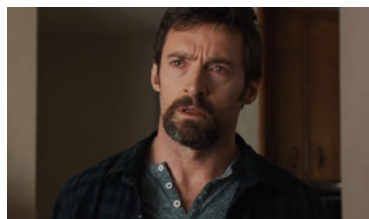
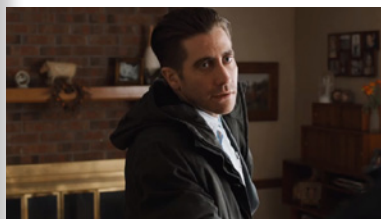
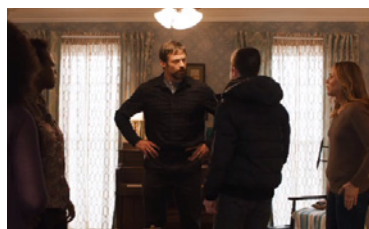
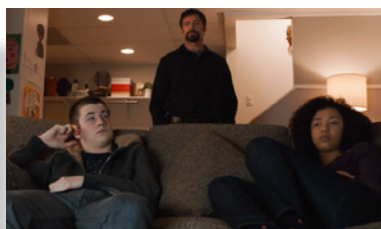
As is evident in his art, Finney Santos aka sleek/shy/dog is passionate – others might even say obsessed – about music and popular culture. Influenced by pop art, dada and graffiti art movements, he draws influence from anything and everything under the sun while infusing them with his own brand of psychedelic randomness. He currently works as an art director for a music magazine and designs shirts for Empire X Fanboy (which he co-owns with radio jock Nikko Ramos). His ultimate life goal is to meet Kobe Bryant and Ritz Azul.





PRISONERS

In *Prisoners*, loving father Keller (Hugh Jackman) takes matters into his own hands when his daughter and her best friend suddenly disappear. When the police, led by Jake Gyllenhaal as Detective Loki, release a prime suspect (Paul Dano) for lack of evidence, Keller goes full on vigilante and abducts the suspect to find his daughter. How far will he go for the love of his life? Directed by Denis Villeneuve, *Prisoners* will be on theaters starting these last few weeks of September. (Robert Soriano)



THE FAMILY

Directed by cult favorite Luc Besson and executive produced by Martin Scorsese, *The Family* stars Robert De Niro, Michelle Pfeiffer, Tommy Lee Jones and Dianna Agron in a dark comedic action film. The story revolves around the Manzoni Family, a notorious mafia family relocated to France under the witness protection program after violating the 'omerta'. Can they fit in their community as a normal family? Or will their former life catch-up to them? *The Family* will be out on the last week of September. (R.S.)



»»»»» DVD



PARKS AND RECREATION: SEASON FIVE

As exciting as the show's season six premiere is, it's much more exciting to note that the previous season will finally have its DVD release! Touted as the "Best Comedy in Television" by Entertainment Weekly, the Amy Poehler-starrer NBC series will arrive on DVD in stores in early September. Available in three discs, the package includes English and Spanish subtitles. Enjoy comedy at its finest in all of its 22 episodes. (Eizen Barleta)



AMERICAN HORROR STORY: ASYLUM

The second season of the famous horror television series can now be enjoyed at your own comfort starting later this month. Slated to be available in the market on September 24, *American Horror Story: Asylum* features all new characters as well as a new location. Joseph Fiennes, Jessica Lange and Zachary Quinto are among the new set of actors for the series' latest season. (E.B.)

RUGBY ROUGHING IT UP

WORDS BY CYRIAN AGUJO



WE FILIPINOS LOVE CONTACT SPORTS, AND THAT'S ACTUALLY UNDERSTATING IT WHEN OUR MOST FAMOUS ATHLETE IS A BOXER. THAT SAID, RUGBY IS STILL JUST MILDLY POPULAR IN THE COUNTRY AND IS STILL MORE OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH AN INTOXICATING ADHESIVE RATHER THAN WITH A BODY-BANGING SPORT. BUT RECENTLY, IT HAS STARTED TO FIND AN AUDIENCE AND IS SLOWLY RISING UP THE PINOY SPORTS RANKS TOGETHER WITH FOOTBALL.

Welcome to the world of pain, guys.

What kind of pain are we talking about? Well, imagine running after a snatcher in Quiapo and tackling him unmercifully to the ground — and you have a rough idea. It's somewhat similar to American Football, but in rugby, they don't use padding.

Rugby games are divided into two, 40-minute halves. Now, here's the catch: there are no breaks during the whole 40-minute stretch. The only time players can catch their breath is when they reset their formations, when there's a substitution (limited to seven) or during halftime. The goal is simple: get your team of 15 players to pass, kick or run with the ball past the opponent's other end of the field. Think touchdowns, then call it a "try".

In the Philippines, rugby has had a rough start. While there has been a governing body — the Philippine Rugby Football Union (PRFU) — since 1999, it wasn't until the mid-2000s that Pinoys were able to start joining competitions and gain recognition. The Nomads were the only rugby team then and they only played occasionally. They had to wait for visiting Navy ships (which usually have a rugby team) or touring teams to be able to play. It's like being Manny Pacquiao with no opponents.

Because of the limited competition, some rugby players participated in slightly modified versions of the game called Sevens or Tens, which denote the number of players. So instead of the usual

15, they make do with seven or ten players. While the rules are the same, the dynamics are drastically different, with the Sevens or Tens requiring a more run-and-gun approach as opposed to the tactical nature of the traditional 15s.

These modified events actually favor us Filipinos, with our otherwise slender builds. The faster play of the Sevens or Tens enables us to beat opponents with speed and tenacity, something almost all our athletes our known for. We might not be naturally bulky and muscle-bound, but we're certainly agile and fast. And there's also no height requirement, which would make you wonder why we didn't get introduced to this sport earlier, right?

The Philippine national rugby team, better known as the Philippine Volcanoes, is the poster boy of rugby in the country and for good reason — they actually win. At the time of this writing, the Volcanoes are ranked 56th in the world, a significant achievement considering PRFU gained full membership in the International Rugby Board (IRB) only in 2008. The group is composed primarily of half-Pinoys, and while their penchant for going topless and showing off their muscle-bound physique is still a subject for debate, it undeniably contributes to the popularity of the sport.

Rugby still has a long way to go before being recognized by other than sport enthusiasts. But nowadays, rugby teams are sprouting everywhere and the PRFU is now busy conducting various training programs. They also deploy trainers to various foundation clubs, which offers a chance for kids who have an inclination to run amuck to channel their inner badass more productively. Add the fact that the Volcanoes are continuing to obliterate foreign teams—they recently beat UAE to keep their berth in the HSBC Asian Five Nationals elite group and are contenders for the 2013 Rugby World Cup Sevens—and it won't be long before we start yelling "good scrum" and "brilliant try".



AN EARFUL

BY EIZEN BARLETA

MORE THAN JUST AUDITORY ORGANS, YOUR EARS ARE ALSO EROGENOUS ZONES. HOWEVER, WHISPERED WORDS OF SEDUCTION AND SENSUAL NIBBLES CAN BE BROUGHT TO A DEADENING HALT BY FILTHY EARS.

According to ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialists, due to your hearing pipes' sensitivity, washing the insides of the ears and poking the ear canal are not advisable. Earwax, also called cerumen, is necessary for the self-cleaning mechanism of the ears. Rigorously wiping it off is not advisable. Unless there is an earwax blockage, one has to consult an ear doctor to avoid further damage to your ears.

◆ EXTRA CARE

Cleaning the ears with a moist cloth, instead of ear swabs, is recommended. Wrap your index finger or your pinky with a thin moist cloth. Gently insert in the ear and avoid wiggling your finger. Clean your ears after taking a shower since it is at this time that earwax is at its softest.

◆ SOFTER PARTS

Earlobes are commonly overlooked when taking a bath and having pierced ears would mean extra cleaning time. Scrubbing the back of the ears and the earlobes with a washcloth is not enough, neither is simply rubbing them with your fingers. Pour an ample amount of specially-formulated disinfectant to a cotton ball or swab and gently rub the cotton to the front and back of your piercings. As you would wash the body, rinse soaped earlobes thoroughly to avoid residue build up.

◆ IN MODERATION

Ear specialists do not outright give specific prescriptions on how often ear canals should be cleaned. One's exposure to dirt through the air and environment may determine how frequent cleaning must be done. It is safe to clean ears twice or thrice a week. Overdoing the process may inflame the ears so exercise caution.

◆ CARE CURIOSITIES

Ear candling is a therapeutic relaxation technique that uses paraffin or beeswax coated cloth. With the aid of a burning wick and molded to form a conical cylinder, the procedure purportedly

eliminates ear impurities. A modern procedure, it may seem, but this process dates back to 2500 B.C. Current medical studies show that this is an ineffective way of cleaning ears; the worst of which would be first degree burns from scalding candle wax.

ONCE HEARING IS DAMAGED, IT IS OFTEN IRREPARABLE. STAY AWAY FROM COMMON CAUSES OF HEARING LOSS:

EAR INFECTIONS

Scientifically known as otitis media, ear infections are caused by the blockage of unnecessary fluids behind the eardrum. Hearing problems may occur since the ear drum cannot vibrate properly due to the improper drainage of fluid inside the ears. Avoid water, sand and dirt from getting into the ear canal.

NOISE

Stay away from places with intolerable noise as much as possible. Your ears weren't made for daily doses of live rock concerts. Diseases — Improperly treated measles and mumps have been known to cause hearing loss.

DRUGS

Certain medicines may damage hearing, so always heed professional advice.

Remember, too loud for too long is wrong—unless it is your partner lovingly screaming your name.

**F.U. RAMEN**

THE KIND OF RAMEN THAT WOULD SURELY PAIR WELL WITH BEER OR ANY OTHER ALCOHOL, THE FU IS TOPPED WITH BACON, SPAM, FRIED EGG, AND CHEESE. ITS BROTH IS VERY FLAVORFUL AND INFUSED WITH GARLIC AND LOTS OF BLACK PEPPER.

UNAUTHENTIC BEST

WORDS BY ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOS BY JEFF INFANTE

SUBTLE. LIGHT. HEALTHY. FORGET ALL YOUR PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS ABOUT JAPANESE FOOD.

Wrong Ramen is here to tell us that sometimes, getting things wrong is the right way. Less than a year old, Wrong Ramen promises an unauthentic Japanese experience like no other. Yes, they don't have legit, full-blooded Japanese chefs and kowtowing-and-greeting-in-Japanese staff. Also, they don't follow any hard and fast rule when it comes to ramen and Japanese cuisine. What you can expect from them, however, is great food and top service. Most of their dishes are designed to go over-the-top and overstimulate your taste buds. Plus, their small but elegantly (and comically) designed ramen bar is chock-full of interesting details and conversation pieces and would be perfect for date night.

WRONG RAMEN IS LOCATED AT BURGOS CIRCLE, BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY AND IS OPEN FROM 11AM TO 4PM AND 5PM TO MIDNIGHT.

**TANTANMEN**

MILDLY SPICY AND NUTTY, WRONG RAMEN'S TANTANMEN IS SERVED WITH GROUND PORK AND SHREDDED CHASHU. ITS BROTH HAS A STRONG SESAME TASTE BUT ISN'T PARTICULARLY OVERPOWERING.

**TONKOTSU**

WHEN YOU ORDER TONKOTSU RICH, YOU ARE PRETTY MUCH GETTING "LIQUID LECHON" BECAUSE OF THE PORK CONTENT OF ITS SOUP (ABOUT 1/3KG PORK DISSOLVED IN THE SOUP PER ORDER). THOUGH THIS RAMEN MIGHT NEED TO COME WITH A WARNING BECAUSE OF ITS FAT CONTENT, IT'S HEAVENLY, IT'S CREAMY AND WORTH THAT CHEAT DAY.

FOOD

PLAY
GROUND

PRAWN STAR

**PIMP YOUR SHRIMP WITH OUR SPICY
GRILLED SPIN ON SHRIMP COCKTAIL**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHARLES MASTERS

Shrimp cocktail, that mainstay of the country club dinner and the wedding reception buffet, doesn't need to be relegated to proper affairs. And summer's parade of hastily assembled cookouts could use an injection of sophistication. To address these two issues simultaneously, we turned to the countries of Asia as the inspiration for a bolder, better version of shrimp cocktail, grabbing sweet hoisin sauce from China, the peppery-lemony spice blend *shichimi togarashi* from Japan and the ubiquitous *sriracha* hot sauce. Boost the heat of the cocktail sauce with a quarter teaspoon of wasabi powder if you like it superspicy.

1 *Hoisin Grilled Shrimp* (serves four)

In a large mixing bowl, combine first four ingredients and stir well. Add shrimp and mix to coat with marinade. Refrigerate for 30 minutes. Heat a grill to medium heat. Spear shrimp on bamboo skewers and grill for two minutes per side.

2 tbsp. hoisin sauce
2 tbsp. mirin
1 tbsp. vegetable oil
1 tbsp. *shichimi togarashi*
1 lb. medium shrimp peeled
6 bamboo skewers

2 *Sriracha Cocktail Sauce*

Place ingredients in a small mixing bowl and stir to combine. Serve as dipping sauce with shrimp.

4 tbsp. ketchup
4 tbsp. *sriracha* hot sauce
3 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/2 lb. horseradish sauce

STICK TRICK
Soak bamboo skewers for 30 minutes in cold water to keep them from burning on the grill.

PLAY
GROUND



GEARBOX

RED HOT

HOP ON DUCATI'S PANIGALE R THE FASTEST PRODUCTION MOTORCYCLE OF ALL TIME

When you push a serious sport bike to its limits, you can experience depths of emotions you didn't know existed. Lust, terror, the apotheosis of excitement—the machine brings it out in you. Pictured here is Ducati's new \$29,995 1199 Panigale R, which the company built to race in the World Superbike Championship. The rules state that for a motorcycle to race in World Superbike, it must be available to customers. Which means you can buy this machine—the fastest, most powerful production bike ever. The R's 1,198 cc L-twin produces 195 bhp and 100 foot-pounds of torque, and at just 364 pounds, the bike is amazingly lightweight. How can it be so svelte? It's the first "frameless" production motorcycle (see "Freeze Frame" at right for explanation). The result is violent acceleration that doesn't taper—even at 185 mph. Atop this monster we hit 202 mph limiter at Austin's new Formula One track, the Circuit of the Americas. In one Emotion: adoration.

GONE WITH THE WIND

A tall screen redirects wind over your helmet and back while you're in full racing tuck. Holes on each side break up turbulence so you can relax at 200 mph.

BRAKE DANCE

The Brembo M50 radial brake calipers bring the bike to a dead stop from 200 mph all day long but are probably too sensitive for everyday road use.





HANDS ON

Not only does the bike come with anti-lock braking and stability control, but the rider can alter the setting on the fly to take weather condition into account

WELL ADJUSTED

The swingarm pivot adjusts to four positions, allowing the rider to tweak the bike's stability and grip levels. The Öhlins forks and shocks are also fully adjustable.

FREEZE FRAME

The world's first "frameless" production bike uses the airbox to attach the forks to the front cylinder and the swingarm directly to the rear. The L-twin tucked inside redlines at 12,000 rpm

MAKE A SEXY TIME PLAYLIST

By Nino Barrios

Illustration By Jeff Infante

Birds flyin' high, you know how I feel, sun in the sky, you know how I feel, breeze driftin' on by, you know how I feel, it's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me, yeah, it's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me. And I'm feelin' good."

Reading the entry, it wouldn't register as intense as hearing every syllable being stroked by the sultry voice of Nina Simone. The song is called *Feeling Good*. Aptly, you are feeling good. As a matter of fact, you are feeling like you just won the lottery. I don't know any one guy who wouldn't want to be in your shoes right now.

The room was in a blanket of soft light as the music cradles your anticipation to greater heights. The barely clad feline in front of you grinds sensuously to the music. Teasing, flirting, raising hell in your loins as the beat of the music cues pieces of her articles to drop on the floor. Your throat feels like the desert and as you hydrate it with a glass of wine, you thank the heavens for everything—and the music too.

It would be hard to imagine the realization of a scene like this without it. She'd look awkward without the emphasis of the notes and the groove that invokes the sensual beast in her. She'd still be hot but it would seem odd watching her gyrations to the tune of silence. So, thank God for music. Lap dances wouldn't have been possible.

We've heard it all before. They say that music is all around us. From the honk of a horn to the sound of a leaking faucet or whatever white noise that we hear. But hey, I'm sure that we are all in agreement that we'd rather have Nina Simone's *Feeling Good* piping through the speakers than a cacophony of random noises in such a moment.

Our life adventure becomes more colorful with music. Every event in our journey through life had always been in the company of a song that relates directly to every situation or how we feel. Music imitating life or life imitating music, whichever way it is, that does not seem relevant to the fact that our lives play out before us like a movie scene with music playing in the background. Though we go through the same emotions, how every single one of us would

dance with the situation makes us unique from the person next to you. Life choices, taste, preferences. Similar situations become unique. So is our taste in music and how we let it affect us, or how it affects us.

Moods get influenced with a song that you would listen to. Taking a Sunday drive, my choice would be Sly and the Family Stone's *Everyday People* or Maroon Five's *Sunday Morning*. But for the guy that would cut my lane zipping like an immortal on amphetamines, most likely the song blaring from his

you step into the room.

"To the left, to the left, mmm to the left, everything you own in the box to the left, in the closet, that's my stuff, yes, if I bought it, baby please don't touch (don't touch). And keep talking that mess, that's fine, could you walk and talk, at the same time? And it's my name that's on that jag, so go move your bags, let me call you a cab."

When you hear this Beyoncé song she's playing for you, she's telling you how much she adores you, right? Duh, ya think?

It actually works both ways. You think she'll get it when you play this Marvin Gaye song? Of course she will!

"I've been really tryin', baby, tryin' to hold back this feeling for so long, and if you feel like I feel, baby, then, c'mon, oh, c'mon, let's get it on, ah, baby, let's get it on, let's love, baby, let's get it on, sugar, let's get it on..."

With the right elements, you just might get it on.

Rough day? With all that negative energy pent up, you'd want to release it. So you hit the gym and "hello, punching bag." Try Slayer's *War Ensemble* blasting through your earphones as you pound the bag. I need not say more.

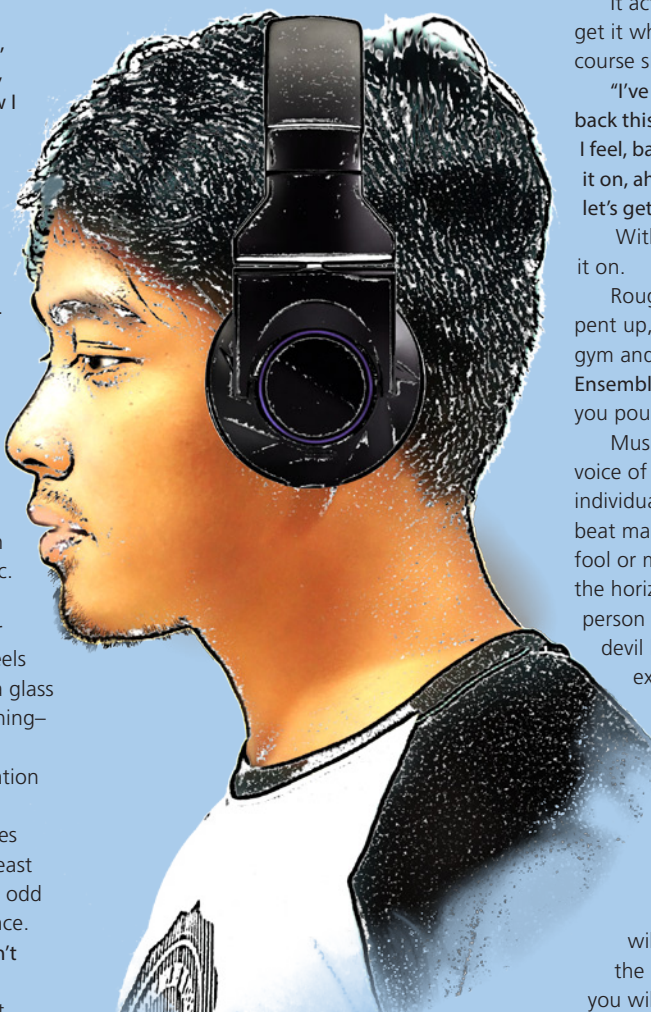
Music is a powerful entity that can be the voice of a generation or the expression of an individual's soul. It's not devil music when the beat makes someone move irrationally like a fool or make the hips behave like it's calling for the horizontal boogie. We all know that. How a person reacts to a song does not mean that the devil had taken over, so cancel the call for an exorcist. "Go chill or somethin'. Celibacy does have an effect on humans."

We all have a relationship with music. It can be our mistress; our lover, our companion or whatever suit it would wear for you. I can only imagine how dull and bland life would be without it. Our life journey will play its music and it will evolve into a new tune as we travel the road with a partner where the music you will both play would paint your future. It sounds like some hallmark card, but that's the way it is.

Going back to the lap dance, the last piece of clothing had met the floor. You're seated there with your heart pounding with excitement as she straddles you. You do feel like a million bucks as you watch her shake her ass inches from your face. You are enjoying every minute of it, aren't you? Like I said, any man would want to be in your shoes right now.

So, I'll be taking your place now, thank you very much. My song, my playlist, my playground. That kitten is my kitten and she happens to be the missus pulling off her cabaret number from her bag of tricks for me.

Later, bud. It's time for you to play your own song. **Y**



audio player would be "I-wanna-drive-fast-and-die". Without stereotyping a song or a genre, it could actually be anything that impacts a person's psyche in that manner.

Women are often hard to read and getting them drunk as a skunk does not help you get any closer to truly understanding them. In most cases, alcohol gets you in their pants and if it gets you off to see them barely conscious and breathing vomit—well lemme just say, "To each his own, brutha". The music they listen to actually gives them away. You just got to pay more attention. They could be telling you something. It's not rocket science trying to decipher what she could be saying to you through the music she's playing loudly when

Alani DiFranco wrote 32 Flavors in 1995. Three years later, Alana Davis took the song way up to the charts and officially turned it into one of the best darn anthems of the modern woman. Now, way past its tenth anniversary, I seriously believe that DiFranco needs to update them flavors a thousand-fold.

Today's women have exponentially diversified in the past ten years. Her voice has become thunderous all the more, thanks to the wonders of and access to online media. She has morphed into a creature of a thousand hands given the societal roles that are imposed on her, which she now perfected into an art with a juggler's grace. She has grown wings, tougher claws and adapted to the challenges and conveniences of the dynamic world, making it even more effortless for her to be holistic. Fearless and feistier than ever. She might even have developed a multiple personality disorder of the fabulous sort. In this day and age, there is absolutely nothing that a woman is reluctant to achieve. Two more years, give or take, and she will most probably be literally flying. The next ten years can only get better.

Top that with her gamut of moods – in cyclonic wind speed – a force of nature.

Given all that, how do you actually figure out her maze of a mind? It doesn't make it easier as well that she hates giving herself away. Isn't there even a classic joke that when a woman says something about how she feels, a man should think about the reverse of what she said as that's what she's actually feeling? There are just diverse ways that a woman communicates her thoughts. There's the proverbial hairstyle change after a bad breakup, the I'm-so-pissed-I'm-gonna-shop maneuver and the cooking spree therapy, to even the most radical of choices. A change in religion, perhaps? Heaven knows for what thousands of reasons. The timing of all of this couldn't be more unpredictable! How does one keep up?

Studies show that music has a crucial impact on one's mindset; affecting the individual's disposition. Equally, it reflects the current mood of the individual. So if you ever want to finally be forewarned when that PMS (read as **the deadliest storm**) is right about to hit, you want to disarm her into sweetness, simply cheer her up on a down day, perhaps learn to hear what isn't being said. This is something I highly suggest you take a mental note of. Take the phrase "learn to listen" to a different level.

Here, across time and genre, I've aggregated a playlist that could help you get tuned into the female psyche. I'm very sure I'm going to miss out an even essential lot given the gazillion moods of women, but this should give you the basic fundamentals to decipher what's happening between her ears.

Shuffle:

Because she's in a feel-good vibe. I think it's mighty standard for everyone to begin his or her day with a picker-upper song. Yes, they may sound very much like shampoo commercials to some ears. But they're sure to ease out the pains of the daily grind, and keep you sane in the middle of morning EDSA traffic. So if she's on

the wheel, leave her playlist alone. That is if you want your day to go just as great.

Unwritten – Natasha Bedingfield

Extraordinary – Liz Phair

Brave – Sarah Bareilles

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun – Cindy Lauper

Because she had a shitty day. Which could have been caused by a car breakdown, some technical problem at work, maybe her mobile phone accidentally got dipped down the girls' room. It could even be caused by you, whether you admit it or not. Whatever the cause, a shitty day for any woman means the sound of crickets in a ghost town for you; total static over dinner. Or these tracks. If you hear any of these,



make sure to run for cover as fast as humanely possible.

PJ Harvey – The Words That Maketh Murder

Rebel Girl – Bikini Kill

Call Tyrone – Erykah Badu

Explosive – Bond

Just A Girl – No Doubt

Misirlou – Dick Dale (Yes, the Pulp Fiction kind of pissed)

Because the warrior heart is scarred. It's been said far too many times how hell's got nothing on a woman scarred. In her most painful of times, the warrior lets it all out. She must. A moment of silence, please.

All I Could Do Was Cry – Etta James

Piece of My Heart – Janis Joplin

Right to be Wrong – Joss Stone

What Doesn't Belong To Me – Sinead O'Connor

1,000 Oceans or Silent All These Years – Tori Amos

Tuning In

By Hanna Acosta

Illustration By Jeff Infante

Bang, Bang – Nancy Sinatra

Karma – Alicia Keys

Because she's got the 'feist'. So maybe there was this a-hole colleague who's getting to her nerves, or someone just made the mistake of pushing the don't-even-go-there button. Maybe she feels challenged and needs to psych herself to step up or break free from a binding situation (of any nature). Usually played in fangs-out decibels.

Contradanza – Vanessa Mae

Free Your Mind – En Vogue

Gold Dust Woman – Stevie Nicks

I Wanna Be Evil – Eartha Kitt

Spectrum – Florence and the Machine

Piss Factory – Patti Smith

Love Is A Battlefield – Pat Benatar

This Is A Man's World – Christina Aguilera's rendition (sorry guys, but it sure darn hits it spot on)

Silence – Sarah McLachlan

Because the green light is on. Quite simply, this is your cue. Among the many ways she can seduce you into submission, that is.

Body & Soul – Ella Fitzgerald

Absence of Fear – Jewel

Because The Night – Patti Smith

The First Taste (and/or) Shadowboxer – Fiona Apple

I Touch Myself – Divynils

Hand-Painted Sky – Color It Red

Rim Shot – Erykah Badu

Night and Day – Ella Fitzgerald

The Sweetest Taboo – Sade

Because. Period. When a woman plays her anthems, I highly suggest you pay heed.

For your own peace, trust me. No further explaining here. All rise...

Whatever Lola Wants – Sarah Vaughn

Man! I Feel Like A Woman – Shania Twain

I'm Every Woman – Chaka Khan

Beautiful – Sarah Brightman (or Christina Aguilera)

Song To The Siren – This Mortal Coil

Superwoman or A Woman's Worth – Alicia Keys

Express Yourself – Madonna

Voodoo Child – Angelique Kidjo's rendition of the Hendrix classic

These Boots Are Made For Walkin' – Nancy Sinatra

Respect – Aretha Franklin

As mentioned, this playlist is only partial, and is already evolving by the second for every female child that is born as I write this. Another set of songs is actually popping up as I wrap this up. What can I say? We are endless. It isn't rocket science but just in case you had no clue of this valuable information, now you know. The key to the beginning of understanding the female psyche is right at your fingertips. All you've got to do now is press play. 🎧

FORUM

INTERNET AND THE PROGRESSION OF MUSIC

THE STATE OF SOUND

THE INTERNET AND MUSIC

BY ROBERT SORIANO

ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES SANTOS

By far the most significant and critical invention of mankind, the Internet has and will continue to influence every facet of our lives. Yes, pointless things like cat photos, silly viral videos, and weird stuff does litter its pages, but the internet has been instrumental in how people interact, acquire information, and form their opinions about many things since its inception. One such thing is music. Come to think of it, it's impossible to discuss music and not peer into how the internet has affected it. But how exactly has the internet changed the way we listen to music? How has it changed the industry? And where will the internet take us?

According to the International Telecommunications Union's report last 2012, one-third (32.5%) of the world's population has access to the internet. Plus, according to the study of a team of Chinese researchers published in the New Journal of Physics, the Internet doubles its size every five or so years. What do these numbers mean for music, then? Since the Internet is a repository of various information, files and media, more people having access to it worldwide and uploading to (and downloading from) it means more content. More content means more music and improved diversity in music.

This content explosion has a significant impact on our behavior toward music. Now, more than ever in any point in history, we have unbridled access to music and its various forms. From old and new, to popular and subversive. From Bieber, One Direction and Miley Cyrus, to Johnny Cash, Jenny Owen Youngs, Someone Still Loves You Boris Yelstin, and that-so-underground/



hipster-band-that-you-probably-never-heard-of-yet. From mainstream to independent to everything in between, albums to live bootleg recordings, you have access to any form of music from anywhere and any period in the world at the mercy of your fingertips. Using the internet to listen/gain access to music comes in various forms. From free/ad-supported/subscription-based streaming (YouTube, Spotify, Rhapsody, etc.), directly buying digital music (iTunes), to the illegal but widely practiced means like torrent downloading and peer-sharing. Is it that impossible then for that power and unlimited access to overwhelm and change us?

It is conspicuous in our society how this unlimited access has changed us. For instance, some people have begun to listen to music from other countries, setting language barriers and culture differences aside. Now, it is not uncommon for someone to listen to toe, a

Japanese math-rock/post-rock band, and Sigur Ros, an art-rock/ambient band from Iceland. In our country, K-pop artists (mostly boy bands) have quite a following from crazed fangirls. And who the hell can forget how Psy took the world by storm back in 2012? During pre-internet

THOUGH ILLEGAL DOWNLOADS SUPPOSEDLY HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT TOWARD THE INDUSTRY, THE INTERNET HAD ALSO BEEN MOMENTOUS IN THE CAREERS OF SOME ARTISTS—INTERNET SUPERSTARS LIKE CHARICE PEMPENGCO, SUNGHA JUNG AS WELL AS ARTISTS LIKE DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE, OK GO AND OTHERS WHO ALL FOUND THEIR NICHE THROUGH THE INTERNET.

ages, access to music from other countries were limited depending on the artist's success and reception, as well as other factors like music labels and distributors. Now, the internet has broken boundaries and opened the flood gates for more artists and genres.

Record labels and music companies see this increased accessibility as a bane to the industry (as they can't monetize from freely streamed and illegally downloaded music). In fact according to the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, the industry has only shown growth once (last year) in the past 13 years. A measly growth of 0.2%, mostly due to digital sales and streaming subscription. So what does this mean? Has online piracy/downloading really ruined the industry?

Maybe. It's really difficult to tell for sure as the music industry as well as music critics and experts have their own opinions about this. Critics like Greg Kot – a famous music critic for the Chicago Tribune – argued that though illegally downloading music might translate to loss in sales, that access to free/downloaded music might turn its listener into a fan, which can convince him/her to later buy albums from that artist or attend that artist's show/concert which the listener probably wouldn't do in the first place if he/she wasn't exposed to

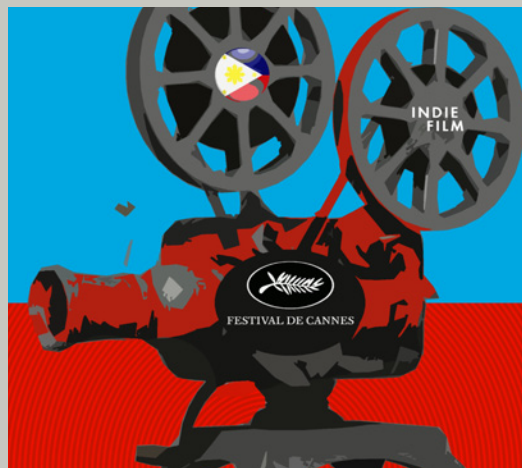
that music. This solves the age old problem of getting an audience as getting heard is a big problem for budding artists.

Though illegal downloads supposedly have an adverse impact toward the industry, the internet had also been momentous in the careers of some artists – internet superstars like Charice Pempengco, Sungha Jung as well as artists like Death Cab for Cutie, OK Go and others who all found their niche through the internet. Needless to say, this is a contradiction to the viewpoint that the internet marks the slow death of the industry. Before, these artists would have had to go through the difficulty of convincing a record label to support them before they develop an audience. Now a paradigm shift is imminent. Some artists are now acquired by record labels for the sole reason that they have an established online fan base. This says a lot about how the internet has leveled the playing field for independent artists as they can now stabilize on their own through this medium. Of course, this is also good news for the fans as they get easy access to the music of their favorite artists. On the other, this has an impact – whether positive or negative is another argument in itself – on listener behavior. Back

SO WHERE THEN, THEN, MOST OF THE ARTISTS ARE PRODUCTS OF THE SURVIVAL-OF-THE-FITTEST MUSIC INDUSTRY WHERE, MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, THE ONES CHOSEN BY THE LABELS RECEIVE A WIDE AUDIENCE BASE AND LABEL MACHINERY. SINCE THERE'S A SMORGASBORD OF MUSICAL TALENT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INTERNET, LISTENERS NOW TEND TO LISTEN TO MORE ARTISTS. THIS THEN CREATES AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE AUDIENCES LEAN TOWARDS NEWER ALBUMS AND ARTISTS. IN A WAY, THIS COULD BE POSITIVE AS MUSICAL TASTES AND SENSIBILITIES MIGHT DEVELOP AND BECOME MORE REFINED WITH THE EXPOSURE TO VARIOUS ARTISTS AND GENRES.

then, most of the artists are products of the survival-of-the-fittest music industry where, more often than not, the ones chosen by the labels receive a wide audience base and label machinery. Since there's a smorgasbord of musical talent available through the internet, listeners now tend to listen to more artists. This then creates an environment where audiences lean towards newer albums and artists. In a way, this could be positive as musical tastes and sensibilities might develop and become more refined with the exposure to various artists and genres.

READER RESPONSE



PELIKULA VS. THE WORLD INDIE TO INTERNATIONAL AND BACK.

Filmmakers need to market their movies in a way that it explains to its target market the movie's importance. This is even beyond the creative, usually unimaginative, strategies and gimmicks they employ to get attention. Culturally, we like movies and we like to be entertained non-stop. I think it's about time we appreciate what we have by giving consideration to the exploration of the craft by artists, noteworthy or otherwise. It's a sad fact that moviegoers have to be enticed and encouraged online and in print, with a number of reviews, for them to even consider watching homegrown films.

Anton Sanvictores
Entrepreneur, 26

It's another Wenn Deramas comedy. It has his protégé in it again, of course. News says it's still the kind of movie people like to see, the way they liked them in the last 15 years. It has a lot of big stars in cameo roles. It's going to be a hit, of course. Stars have lured their fans to its box office outcome. And so the same thing must happen in the next three months. Experts need not dissect this formula. Let's start promoting our local films; the ones that are not only creatively artsy, but also those that reflect the values that we take pride in.

Gibbs Cajo
Banker, 33

For me, the film industry, lately, has serious potential. Sure, most Filipinos still can't appreciate art house films or profound features, but the fact that more critics and award-giving bodies recognize the work of our filmmakers is indicative that the indie film industry undoubtedly produces quality movies.

SOWHERE THEN IS THE INTERNET TAKING MUSIC? SLOWLY, THE INTERNET IS BECOMING A VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT WHERE ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING COULD BE TALKED ABOUT AND SHARED.

Another argument is that this might lead to a less intensive and critical form of listening as compared to when the audiences listen to less music. Now, audiences might not be as passionate towards the music of a specific artist than they could be as they listen to several other artists as well. Much like how a juggler might have a bit more difficulty in his task if more juggling pins enter the picture. It is not surprising then that some people react to this wellspring of media by trying to listen more rather than listen deeply. As there are more resources to access, what begins to matter now are the new artists or albums rather than a profound listening of an old one.

So where then is the Internet taking music? Slowly, the Internet is becoming a virtual environment where anything and everything could be talked about and shared. Now, anything that you can do in real life can pretty much be done online. One such emerging phenomenon in the internet is the rise of crowdsourcing or crowdfunding. By utilizing the power and resources of willing people in the internet, services, innovations, and other stuff now become possible. In music, the

IN A SENSE, CROWDFUNDING BYPASSES THE RECORD LABELS AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC INDUSTRY BY CREATING A MORE DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE ARTIST AND THE AUDIENCE. IF PEOPLE WANT TO SUPPORT THE ARTIST, THEY CAN JUST DIRECTLY PURCHASE FROM OR HELP FUND AN ALBUM OF THE ARTIST.

Fucking Palmer's Theatre is Evil album; she is the vocalist and lyricist of the Dresden Dolls and also Neil Gaiman's wife. Though the target for the album was \$100,000, the pledge amount that the preorder/backing for the album received was \$1,192,793 (based on

its Kickstarter page). In some cases the online backers who loaned (interest-free) would be then paid back after the album collects the profits.

In a sense, crowdfunding bypasses the record labels and traditional music industry by creating a more direct link between the artist and the audience. If people want to support the artist, they can just directly purchase from or help fund an album of the artist. If the artist wants to expand his reach, he/she needs to deliver, become more competitive, and be better in his/her craft to have a wider reach. In the end, this is a win-win for both parties as they can forget the complex economics and just go back to listening to and producing music. Slowly, the gap between the artist and audience seems to be dissolving, which could then lead to a question on where the music industry factors in on this equation if this pushes through? Of course, this may not actually be

READER RESPONSE

CONTINUATION...

Will local appreciation for these films improve? Maybe not immediately, but I'd like to think that getting recognized abroad might get the attention of the local audience.

Lance Castro
University Student, 22

Movies are made to entertain. Some independent films are too high brow, high concept and do not cater to that prerequisite to entertain. Of course, that is not to say that I love those Vice Ganda films or those "kabit movies", nor do I have anything against them. It's just that movies should tell unique stories without boring the viewers out of their skulls.

Rosamaria Garcia
PR Director, 29

Home Updates **24** Backers **24,883** Comments **1,360** Boston, MA Music

Funded! This project successfully raised its funding goal on Jun 1, 2012.

24,883 backers
\$1,192,793 pledged of \$100,000 goal
0 seconds to go

Funding period
Apr 30, 2012 - May 31, 2012

Project by
Amanda Palmer
Boston, MA
[Contact me](#)

3 created · 36 backed

[f](#) Amanda Palmer 4625 friends
Website: [amandapalmer.net](#)
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Amanda Palmer & The Grand Theft Orchestra are putting out an album. Pre-order it / get more info on the art book & gallery tour, here!

Amanda Fucking Palmer's Theatre is Evil album on Kickstarter. Though the target for the album was \$100,000, the latest data on the pledge amount that the preorder/backing for the album received was \$1,192,793 (based on its Kickstarter page).

where the future for the industry is headed but one can only speculate.

I know that I barely scratched the surface on how the internet has changed the way we listen to music in this section. Let's face it, there are near-infinite ways where the Internet has changed and influenced music. Surely, other people might have opinions on how one affects the other. How about you? What's your take on this topic?

The Internet – with all its weaknesses and

strength, positive and negative aspects – is here to stay being the future of mankind.

Music, the most eloquent and passionate sequencing of thoughts and emotions known to mankind, is also never going to die down. Like the proverbial unstoppable force and immovable object, these two are not meant to end and ruin each other. Instead, these two are bound to adapt, grow, and prosper together. A reality that won't soon change. 🙌



United Nations
Foundation Prize
Gold Medal for
Humanitarian and
Development Reporting
("Inside Haiti: Hatred and
Hunger in an Unhealed Land,"
Imelda Abañio)

- ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA
 - »Newspaper of the Year
- ASEAN CHAMPIONS OF BIODIVERSITY
 - »Third Place (Media Category)
- HOLCIM JOURNALISM AWARDS
FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION
 - »Story of the Year (Anjo Alimario)

- »Special Citation for People and
Community (Imelda Abañio)
- »Special Citation for Environment
(Max de Leon)
- »Finalist (Roderick Abad)
- ECONOMIC JOURNALISTS
ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

- »Best Agriculture Reporter (Jennifer Ng)
- »Best Feature Story (Lenie Lectura)
- DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR
INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT
 - »Best Photo Essay (Nonie Reyes)
- SSS BALIKAT NG BAYAN EXCELLENCE
IN JOURNALISM AWARDS
 - »Best in Print Category (Butch del Castillo)

- JOSE G. BURGOS JR. AWARDS
FOR BIOTECH JOURNALISM
 - »First Place, Institutional Category
 - »First Place, News Category
(Lyn Resurreccion)
 - »Third Place, News Category
(Jonathan Mayuga)
 - »Third Place, Features Category
(Jennifer Ng)

- BRIGHTLEAF AGRICULTURE AWARDS
 - »Agriculture Story of the Year
(Alberto "Bong" Fabe)
 - »Best Regional Agriculture
News Story (Marilou Guieb)
 - »Tobacco Photo of the Year (Mauricio Victa)
- HENRY FORD AWARDS
 - »Hall of Fame, Best Motoring Section
 - »Best Automotive Feature Story
(Tet Andolong)

BusinessMirror. *The No. 1 daily business newspaper in the Philippines*



WRITTEN BY ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RAYMOND SALDAÑA
ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHER OWEN REYES
HAIR BY ANDREW JARDENIL
MAKE-UP ARTIST DARVIN MACABALES
STYLIST FOR GWEN LIA CONTRERAS
ASSOCIATE STYLIST YUKIE SARTO
STYLIST FOR GLOC 9 AND SPONGE COLA DICE SILVERIO
SPECIAL THANKS TO JAGGY GLARINO, CHO VITTORIO IAGO
AND GIAN CARLO VIZCARRA OF UNIVERSAL RECORDS
SHOT ON LOCATION AT REPUBLIQ CLUB

TEN YEARS OF POP ROCK

FORMED BACK IN 2002, **SPONGE COLA** HAS PROVEN THAT MORE THAN A DECADE IN THE COMPETITIVE LOCAL MUSIC INDUSTRY COMES EASY WITH GENUINE DEDICATION FOR THE CRAFT AND WHEN WORKING IN SYNERGY WITH YOUR FRIENDS.

Not only are their albums commercially successful, they have also acquired several awards and recognitions for their efforts. Last year, they received several awards at the 4th PMPC Star Awards for Music with *Araw Oras Tagpuan* as Album of the Year and 2012 Male Rock Artist of the Year as well as the 44th Box Office Entertainment Awards for Most Popular Recording/Performing Group.

"We've been coasting for a few years now. We play shows, write songs. We just do what we do. We're yet another color for a very colorful painting that is the local OPM industry," said frontman, **Yael Yuzon**. "Artistically *naman, sobrang okay ngayon ng* OPM. With the internet, you can play a certain type of music *na ma-appreciate pa din ng* niche crowd eh." No truer words have been spoken since the internet was the main catalyst that helped the band break through. Their bootleg cover of Madonna's *Crazy For You* became widely shared in Limewire and other peer-to-peer networks. From there, *Lunes* and *Jeepney* followed suit and became instant hits that made them famous to college

kids and hip OPM junkies during that time.

Despite challenges – detractors, the departure of an original member – and the usual growing pains that bands tend to go through, Sponge Cola remains unfazed and still runs full steam. They owe their 'survival of the fittest' mindset and persistence to the unique qualities they have as a group as well as the very nature of OPM itself. "*Ang maganda kasi sa OPM, kahit tayo mismo hindi natin siya kayang i-define eh. So ang importante eh hindi yung masagot mo sya kundi yung quest para hanapin yung sagot [kung ano talaga ang OPM],*" said lead guitarist Erwin Armovit. Another factor they attributed to the band's success is the Filipino language. "*Maganda sa language natin is maganda yung dating nya. Poetic. Tunog pa lang ng mga salita natin dama mo na yung meaning nya. Sobrang expressive,*" added the band's bassist, Gosh Dilay.

Of course, we have to give credit where credit is due. Sponge Cola wouldn't last more than a decade if not for the members themselves. "*Siguro ang nakatulong din samin, we all have different influences. We're very different people. Ako, I'm into pop and pretty much anything. From grunge to boy*

bands. Si Ted, more on hip-hop/RNB tsaka jazz. Si Gosh, traditional OPM. Si Armo, heavy rock *talaga yan,*" Yael claimed. "*Tapos sabi nga ni Armo, dahil na din kilala na namin ang isa't isa and alam namin how to work together.*" Their fans would be delighted to know that the band is expecting to release a new album by the end of the year. Though still in the works, the band promises that it will "make jaded people fall in love again." They are also looking into collaborating with guest singers for a refreshing twist.

Though they remain true to their OPM roots with their power ballads, heartfelt lyrics and pop rock melodies, Sponge Cola not only survived but flourished throughout the years. Still loved by the youth, the niche that initially fast-tracked their rise to fame, the band still have a steady following (probably from the streams of romantics and heartbroken Pinoyos that we don't have a shortage of) thanks to their commitment to their formula and capitalizing on their pop and OPM sensibilities. Through hell or high water, love it or hate it, ten years in this harsh industry says a lot about Sponge Cola and all the facts are point to them staying for a whole lot longer. 🐣



HEIR

HUMILITY IS A RARE TRAIT THAT YOU DON'T OFTEN FIND IN RAP CULTURE, A CULTURE DOMINATED BY SWAGGER, PRIDE, BLING AND OTHER EXCESSES. THIS TRAIT IS WHAT MAKES **GLOC-9** UNIQUE AND RESPECTED BY FILIPINOS WHO LISTEN TO WHAT HE HAS TO SAY.

APPARENT

With the uncanny ability to write creatively and to clearly enunciate socially/politically relevant lyrics in rapid fire, Gloc-9 is a triumph for our country. By choosing to talk about pertinent and pre-existing issues, not only does he give voice to the silent and repressed, he acts as a mirror that allows us to look into ourselves and reflect.

Born Aristotle Pollisco, Gloc-9 is not the kind of rapper adorned in bling and fancy clothes nor is he the kind who spews venomous swear words and cusses haphazardly.

Instead, Gloc-9 is the kind of rapper who crafts socially and politically relevant verses and tells the stories of common Filipino folk; a rapper – not unlike his lifelong idol, mentor and contemporary, the late Francis Magalona – who keeps it real and stays grounded.

"Napakahirap maubusan ng maikukwento pagdating sa Pilipinas. Kahit san ka pumunta, kahit sa labas lang ng bahay mo, may maikukwento ka na," Gloc-9 explained. *"Narealize ko nung nawala si Sir Kiks na siguro kelangan may magtuloy ng klase ng mga kanta na ginagawa nya. Kung gagawa ka ng kanta na mas makakabuti sa tao, eh di ayos. Sabi nga niya, 'God gave you the talent and the gift to influence people. Ang question dun, paano mo ito gagamitin?'"*

Of course, the answer to this question manifests in how he has produced songs like *Upuan* and *Balita* that delved into political injustices and the government, as well as *Sirena*, *Lando* and *Walang Natira* that all talked about silenced social realities, poverty and other widespread social ills. In *Sirena*, for example, he talked about homosexuality using a first-person point of view, a subject that is somewhat of a taboo in our country. Unlike other songs that poked fun at or talked about the subject with humor, he chose to treat the matter seriously and told a story that is all too familiar and realistic given our context.

Though inspired by the Filipino King of Rap, Gloc-9 has his own unique sound as well as motivations for writing songs. Some might

consider his music to be more grim and darker, but he claims that he is just grounded on reality and knows that sadness and suffering are also parts of life. From his flow to his style, the rapper aspired to learn everything about his craft and fine-tune his talent. *"Kung ano man ang ginagawa ko ngayon, kaya ding gawin yun ng kahit sinong pangkaraniwan na tao. Practice lang at determination. Never kong pinortray yung sarili ko na special. Isa lang akong rapper na nag-practice lang at nagbuhos ng oras at determinasyon sa ginagawa ko,"* he humbly said.

Gloc-9 rose to fame as a solo artist but now works with a full band after realizing the new dimension having back-up adds to his performances. He currently works with Billie Gary Reyes (Guitars), Archie Salvador (Guitars), Fernan Cruz (Bass) and Mark Jasper Grutas (Drums); a group of guys he treats like an extended family of sorts. Working with a band does have its implications, however, as dynamics and relationships also weigh in as factors along with latent skill and passion. *"Dati CD playback lang pag nagpeperform ako. Madali kasing kausap ang CD eh. Pag play, play. Pag pause, pause. Pero ibang klase din kasi pag may banda kang kasama. Pag bigay todo yung banda mo, syempre di ka pwedeng mag-lay back at sasabayan mo sila,"* Gloc-9 remarked.

With the uncanny ability to write creatively and to clearly enunciate socially/politically relevant lyrics in rapid fire, Gloc-9 is a triumph for our country. By choosing to talk about pertinent and pre-existing issues, not only does he give voice to the silent and repressed, he acts as a mirror that allows us to look into ourselves and reflect. And isn't that exactly what we need right now? 



Rousing ENCORE

WRITTEN BY ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RAYMOND SALDAÑA
ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHER OWEN REYES
HAIR BY ANDREW JARDENIL
MAKE-UP BY DARVIN MACABALES
STYLED BY LIA CONTRERAS
ASSOCIATE STYLIST YUKIE SARTO
DESIGNER JAGGY GLARINO
SHOT ON LOCATION AT REPUBLIQ CLUB

GENTS, **GWEN GARCI** IS BACK. AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF LIVING A LOW PROFILE EXISTENCE IN THE US, GWEN DECIDED TO ANNOUNCE HER RETURN WITH A BANG. IN HER MOST RISQUE AND “SEXIEST SHOOT EVER”, GWEN BARES IT ALL AND REMINDS US WHY SHE’LL ALWAYS HAVE A PLACE IN OUR LIVELY IMAGINATIONS.

You probably (vividly) remember her from her stint as one of those sultry goddesses dancing to the tune of novelty songs and recreated nursery rhymes. But what exactly is it about Gwen that makes her intoxicating? “*Ako di ko masabi kung ano yung asset ko eh. Pero yung guys alam na nila yun.*” So that’s my greatest asset, I guess,” said Gwen. And right she is. It may be her *chinita* appeal, her voluptuous curves, or her ageless beauty but whatever it is, it just works.

This being the music issue, we wanted it to have OPM icons. Of course, PLAYBOY wouldn’t be PLAYBOY without a gorgeous lady to accompany those icons. Since she was a member of a sexy all-girl dance group, she perfectly fits the bill. So we teamed her up with rap icon, Gloc-9 and Sponge Cola’s debonair frontman, Yael Yuzon. What does she think about posing for our cover with these OPM icons? “I love their music kasi *sobrang nire-represent nila yung* Pinoy music. However, I really love listening to RnB and sexy Hip-hop music from Usher, Justin Timberlake







“Right now *kasi* some guys are selfish and only think about themselves and sex. I want a guy who will prioritize my needs first.”

ganon. I love bad boys *pero di ako mahilig sa mga rockstars*,” claimed Gwen. Naturally, music alone isn’t enough to turn on a woman. Gwen said that a responsible and loyal man would definitely turn her on. “Right now *kasi* some guys are selfish and only think about themselves and sex. I want a guy who will prioritize my needs first.”

Temporarily back from Las Vegas where she spent her time as a model and part-time realtor, Gwen mentioned that she already has several projects lined-up while she’s here. She excitedly talked about her role in an upcoming sexy comedy play with Niño Muhlach and Lance Raymundo. “I’m really excited about this project *kasi never pa akong naging part ng ganito*. It’s going to be a really funny play with a twist of sexiness,” she explained. When it rains, it definitely pours. Aside from her upcoming play, she will also have a part in a movie currently under wraps and under development. What she did confirm was that the film will be written by a best-selling author and that it will be in English. “Right now, I just go with the flow. *Marami kasing offer sa akin kaya gina-grab ko yung opportunities*,” she said.

Forget about her tumultuous relationship or the other controversies and challenges she encountered, those are all in the past now and what matters is that Gwen is back and she’s going to be here for a while. Now go back to enjoying her wonderful photos! 📸









| GWEN CARCI

SOUND BITES FOR GENIUS

GET CAUGHT UP ON THESE FIGURES' SOUND WAVES AS WE DUG UP THEIR VERY OWN MIXTAPES. INDEED MUSIC TRANSCENDS ANY LANGUAGE KNOWN TO MANKIND.

LEADERS

▶ **Hugo Chavez**
Hugo Chavez was a vocalist. Aiming to amp up his image, he decided to release an album full of Venezuelan folk songs. Folk music has always been his preference.



1

▶ **Benigno Aquino III**
PNoy revealed his love for house music. During his free time, he listens to house artists such as David Guetta and Avicii.



2

▶ **Diana, Princess of Wales**
Princess Diana is more interested in instrumental music, even showing a particular talent for music as an accomplished pianist.



3

AUTHORS

▶ **J.K. Rowling**
The Harry Potter creator is a 'punky' music listener. She admits listening to The Smiths and The Clash.



8

▶ **Jack Kerouac**
Kerouac loves jazz. He even wrote about his bluesy preference in music.



9

▶ **Dr. Seuss**
Liking Broadway music, some of Seuss' works have been adapted in musicals abroad.



10

STARS

▶ **Angelina Jolie**
Did you know that Angelina Jolie enjoys listening to punk rock music? The Clash's *Know Your Right* is at the top of her playlist.



15

▶ **Natalie Portman**
The foxy lady is a giant fan of the late pop star, Michael Jackson. "Anything MJ," she quipped when asked about her taste in music.



16

▶ **Megan Fox**
Blues rock is Fox's thing. In fact, she loves to listen to The Animals' *House of the Rising Sun*.



17

SPORTSMEN

▶ **Manny Pacquiao**
With a fondness for ballads, Pacquiao has released quite a few singles, usually remakes, making him one hell of a singer-sportsman.



22

▶ **Tiger Woods**
The famous golfer enjoys listening to rock music. The band Nickelback is his favorite.



23

▶ **David Beckham**
Beckham has an "unBelievable" iPod. He likes listening to the dodgy tunes of Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez.



24

ICONS

▶ **Mark Zuckerberg**
Electronic music mainly composes Zuckerberg's playlist. However, he also plays songs by Green Day, Nirvana, Jay-Z and even Taylor Swift.



29

▶ **Piers Morgan**
Mr. Morgan is fond of listening to vocal jazz, swing, and rock and roll type of music. He listed Dean Martin's *Mambo Italiano* as his most favorite.



30

▶ **Sigmund Freud**
Sigmund Freud disliked most music, with opera the only type of music he would deign to listen to.



31

► **Margaret Thatcher**

Margaret Thatcher has a mixed relationship with music. She likes pop songs. She said her favorite song of all time is *How Much Is That Doggy in the Window*.



4

► **Nelson Mandela**

Nelson Mandela likes listening to soul and synthpop music. Stevie Wonder once dedicated the song *I Just Called to Say I Love You* to Mandela, resulting in Wonder's music being banned in South Africa.



5

► **Adolf Hitler**

About 100 gramophone records were discovered in the abode of a former Soviet intelligence officer, later proven to be Hitler's belongings. The Nazi leader is fond of listening to Russian and Jewish artists.



6

► **Barack Obama**

The US President shared that he had "pretty eclectic tastes" in music. His iPod showcased tracks ranging from Bob Dylan to Bruce Springsteen and Jay-Z. He also likes hip hop and reggae music.



7

► **John Updike**

Updike did not practically classify the kind of music he listens to, but he enjoys tunes that are "soothing and deep."



11

► **Haruki Murakami**

The Japanese writer loves jazz. Murakami is also a fan of Michael Jackson's music. In fact, he mentioned the late superstar in one of his novels.



12

► **Ernest Hemingway**

Hemingway's love of music ranges from rock to alt-country. Sometimes, he listened to these kinds of music before he sleeps.



13

► **Chuck Palahniuk**

Palahniuk said he uses music as a drug. He often listens to a certain type of music depending on what he writes. For non-fiction, he listens to "chill" music and to Pink Floyd for angry stories. He's a fan of Radiohead, Prodigy and NIN.



14

► **Keanu Reeves**

Punk rock music is what Reeves listen to. As a young 'un, he attended punk rock concerts and even played in some.



18

► **Morgan Freeman**

Morgan Freeman has it bad for operatic music that he decided to become a member of the Opera Ring musical theater group in the 1960s.



19

► **Daniel Radcliffe**

Pop punk and indie rock makes Radcliffe's choice of music. Among his favorites is Weezer's *Buddy Holly*.



20

► **Vic Sotto**

The local comedy man admits listening to some 70s OPM dance tracks aside from the semi-pop and ballad ones.



21

► **Muhammed Ali**

Soothing music is a perfect fit for Jordan's ears. He admits listening to R&B and jazz music.



25

► **Michael Jordan**

Soothing music is a perfect fit for Jordan's ears. He admits listening to R&B and jazz music.



26

► **Cristiano Ronaldo**

Cristiano Ronaldo likes "soft to the ears" type of music. The popular footballer lists R. Kelly's *I Believe I Can Fly* as his favorite song.



27

► **Usain Bolt**

Noting that he was born in Jamaica, the well-known sprinter learned to love a mix of hip hop and reggae music.



28

► **Bill Gates**

After seeing the movie *Once*, Gates has favored the soundtrack of the film. Not much of a music geek, but Gates prefers a bit of pop and folk kind of music.



32

► **Steve Jobs**

The most popular CEO in the world listed Bob Dylan's *Highway 61 Revisited*, Cat Stevens' *Tea for the Tillerman* and The Grateful Dead's *American Beauty* as three of his most favorite songs ever.



33

► **Charles Darwin**

During his academic years, Charles Darwin became a passionate fan of classical music. He even stayed at a church inside his university to listen to the choir singing classics. He loved the overtures of Mozart, Handel and Beethoven.



34

► **Albert Einstein**

As a youngster, the genius took time to practice music by performing at musical gatherings. Einstein is reported to have said that Mozart's music "was so pure that it seemed to have been ever-present in the universe, waiting to be discovered by the master."



35

THE WAY IT WAS WITH RICO J. PUNO

THEY CALLED HIM THE 'TOTAL ENTERTAINER'. AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS CAREER, CROONER RICO J. PUNO WAS SELLING LONG PLAYING RECORDS LIKE HOTCAKES AND PERFORMING TO SOLD OUT CROWDS IN BIG STADIUMS AND LITTLE SHOWS ALIKE.

INTERVIEW BY LAUREN ACURANTES / PHOTOGRAPHY BY OWEN REYES

He was the toast of the town with his smooth voice, his devilish charm and his off-color humor. This was quite the feat, he reckons, since the 70s was a time when original Filipino musical acts were practically non-existent.

"Nung bata pa ko, ang tawag dun sa mga tumutugtog, nagkokombo. Dati ang image nung napupunta sa music, eh walang pupuntahan. Kumbaga, halimbawa, niligawan kita tapos tinanong ng nanay mo, 'Ano ba ang pinagkakaabalahan mo?'" Nagkokombo ho ako. 'Eh wala na, sasakalin na niya yung anak niya kasi it's either nagdu-drugs yun o kaya wala ng pupuntahan, ganun," he shared with PLAYBOY during an interview at his bar-restaurant, Chico Rico, in Makati and with an opening statement like that, it's clear that the man has not lost his cheeky wit. "I finally realized the reason why ganun, eh wala pang indsutriya ng Pinoy music at wala pang naging successful na Pinoy na naging singer," he continued. "My decision to pursue singing and make it as a profession is because of my mother's accusation. Tuwing gabi, susunduin ako nun doon sa kabilang dayo namin, dun ako nagpa-practice eh. Naku, talagang pinipilit ako nun, 'Walang mangyayari sayo diyan. Wala kang mapupuntahan diyan.'"

Little did she know that her son was on the brink of breaking barriers

and setting milestones. Puno became a part, if not the frontrunner, of a group of Filipino musicians that brought so-called Manila Sound to the music scene. A precursor to more modern OPM, Manila Sound is a genre characterized by its earthy, laid-back sounds and unique vocals and by using a mixture of both Tagalog and English language in its lyrics. Puno is credited for being the first singer to do so with his first big hit, The Way We Were. "Never nag come up sa mind ko na I will be a successful singer. Unang una, wala pang singer nun eh. Ang mga sikat nung mga panahon na yun, well, yung local na hindi tinutugtog sa FM. Meron na like sina Victor Wood ... pero yung totally na original, wala, wala pa," he shared.

"But, you know, it's good that I went to college. Napaka-importante na you go to school because you can never be successful, sa tingin ko, ha, if you don't have an education. You might be a big star today but without the proper education, talagang hindi ka makaka-ungos kasi you need a lot of interaction, thinking and ambition. Kailangan dreamer ka," he advocated, giving us a glimpse of the man who spent almost 10 years of his life in public service. Lest you think that our conversation with Puno was taking a serious turn, he added, "Kaya ko rin nasabi yung college kasi lagi akong naiimbita sa mga symposium ng mga Apo, mga fraternity, mga Beta Sigma, ganyan. Tapos sa St. Paul's College, kinanta ko yung You Make Me Feel Brand New, nagsigawan sila. Gwapo pala ako. Doon



MAN OF THE MONTH

IN THIS DAY AND AGE OF ONE-CLICK WONDERS WHERE SUPERSTARS ARE MADE AND MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF HITS THEIR VIDEOS GET ONLINE, PUNO PAID HIS DUES TO THE MUSIC GODS BY PERFORMING AT SMALL PUBS, BARS AND FOLK HOUSES IN AND AROUND THE METRO.

ko nakita na there is a future in singing,” he quipped.

Thanks to his friends, from then on, Puno was able to apply himself seriously to the pursuit of doing music by way of college parties, “*Alam mo, dalawang klase lang ang tipo ng lalake sa mundo: isang gwapo tsaka isang swerte. Swerte ako eh. Ako, yung mga kaibigan ko nung college, pag gusto nilang pumapel sa isang okasyon, isasama ako nung mga yun eh. Susunduin ako, naka-Mustang. Kapag nasa party, sasabihin nila, ‘Pwede bang sumampol yung friend namin?’ Kapag sumampol na ako, aba, kuha na namin yung crowd, eh yung mga barkada ko pa nun puro mga kahawig ko. Kapag pumunta kami sa isang party, maski na sosyal yung mga nandun, pag dumating kami dun, mga sampu kami, kuha kaagad namin yung crowd.*”

College also helped Puno’s career take on a slow upward trajectory in part because of his professors. “*Pagbagsak kasi kami sa mga subjects namin, dinadala naming yung mga professor naming dun sa Spindle, yung folk house. Kaya pumasa kami lahat. Ang first manager ko, professor ko eh. Ang first accountant ko, accounting professor ko. Dun ako na-discover,*” he related.

In this day and age of one-click wonders where superstars are made and measured by the number of hits their videos get online, Puno paid his dues to the music gods by performing at small pubs, bars and folk houses in and around the metro. “He really likes the intimacy of small bars. Yung tipong pagtapos niya mag-perform pwede siyang makihalubilo agad sa mga tao. And he’s very hands-on pagdating dito. Minsan makita mo yan nagma-mop nung floor o di kaya nagpupukpok diyan para sa mga repairs,” shared AJ, bar manager at Chico Rico and Puno’s pseudo girl Friday. Puno himself likened the bar to a driving range. “*Gusto ko rin yung ganito kasi this is where I practice because I tell you, walang magaling unless he practiced. Walang magaling na bigla na lang magaling. Hindi pwede yun. Kailangan merong practice. Dati puro boses lang ang iniisip mo. Ngayon, you have to combine your voice, your personality and a lot of psychology,*” he advised.

The bar itself is very utilitarian, unpretentious and down home. The space is modest with only a few long wooden tables with mono block chairs facing a small raised platform for performances and where Puno sings to a packed crowd twice a week. To the right of the entrance is a raised wing where the bar is situated and adorned by a big screen LCD tv (sourced from Puno’s own home, AJ disclosed) and a photo collage of some of the most iconic men and women in the entertainment industry like James Dean and Marilyn Monroe but smack dab in the middle of the collage is Puno himself. This is possibly indicative of the way Puno presents himself. The man understands his place in the history of Philippine music, and while he is proud of it and willing to talk about it at length, there is no arrogance.



Puno may be pushing senior citizenship but at the very heart of this crooner still beats the heart of a young man with his sharp wit and sometimes cringe-inducing humor.

Talking with him is like talking with an old friend. Case in point, during the interview, a lady walks in the bar. Very non-descript; loose shirt, capri pants, sandals on her feet. She was there to inquire about renting the place exclusively for a function she was hosting. Later on, after the interview, Puno is called over by AJ and is introduced to the lady. They talk a little bit about how she’s a fan. He shakes her hand and thanks her profusely and proceeds with the photo shoot. As he was being photographed, the lady joked, “*O, sinong makakapagsabi na 70-years old na yan?*” To which Puno replied, good-naturedly, “*60 lang naman.*” “*Alam ko naman,*” she countered. “*Niloloko lang kita.*” “Everybody has a good laugh, even Puno. How many icons do you know would trade barbs with a fan in that way?”

“*Sabi nga ni Martin Nievera nung nag-guest ako dun sa show niya,* he changed all the lyrics to The Way We Were and one of the phrases there was, ‘Thank you, Rico J, for paving the way for artists like us. That’s why we are here today.’ Proud ako dun, nagulat ako dun sa mga

sinabi niya. Pero totoo yun. Noong kinuha ako ng Vicor [Records] noon, kakanta ako kunwari nung Love Won’t Let Me Wait, may Tagalog sa gitna. Until dinedemanda ako nung composer ng Dahil Sa ‘Yo kasi binababoy ko daw yung kanta. Yung Dahil Sa ‘Yo kasi, one of the oldest, one of the best romantic Tagalog songs ever written. *Iniba ko yun kasi dati you had to sing Dahil Sa ‘Yo like kumakanta ka ng Lupang Hinirang, Bayang Magiliw, ganun. Nilagyan ko lang ng ‘Baby’ tsaka mga ‘yeah, yeah, yeah’ ganun. Dinemanda ako nun pero ang umaway sa kanya, public opinion. Ang umaway sa kanya mga writers talaga sina Crispina Belen, ganun. Lahat sila umaway sa composer. According to what I’ve learned, music is universal, there’s no end. When you sing a song of the other artist, you have to own it,” he mused.*

“At that time, Philippine music was an infant industry that I’m proud to say I [had] the biggest role. *Nung panahon na yun, 1976,* when Muhammad Ali was the greatest, Bruce Lee was the god. *Yan yung mga idol ko nun eh. 1976 was the start of the revolution, dun nagsimula*

yung awareness. *Dun nag-umpisa.* Because of my acceptance to the medium, to the media, *ako lang ang pinatugtog sa FM;* the first Filipino artist to be played over FM. *Binulgar nila yung payola. Yung payola* is illegal-legal. If you're a radio announcer, we'll give you money *para* every hour *patutugtugin mo.* *Ako, wala akong ganun eh. Talagang kinaklamor yun eh.* That was the time na sina Victor Wood and the others joined forces together. *Yung mga concerts ko nun, hindi sa mga clubs eh, sa Manila Hotel tapos may biglang fiesta sa Pampanga, ano, extremes. Sabi nga nung manager ko, 'Rico, you bridged the gap between the rich and the poor,'*" he added, proudly.

It had a lot to do with the way musicians sang and the message of the songs, he continued. Singing back then wasn't mechanical; everything was done from the heart, the lyrics reflecting the pulse of society. "Back in the day, when we released records, *yun yung laman ng puso mo. 'Bakit ba ganyan ang buhay ng tao, may mayaman, may api sa mundo? Kapalaran kung hanapin di matagpuan. At pag minsan lumalapit ng di mo alam.'* *Storya ng buhay ko yan,*" he recited from his song, *Kapalaran.* "You know, during that time, it was martial law. Well, *alam mo naman ang martial law,* people cannot talk so much. That is the way how you express your feelings, your sentiments over what's happening in your surroundings. You want to do something but you cannot," he explained.

Of his foray into politics and the movie and television industry, Puno concedes that that was also by chance. Another side of the road, he called it. "Politics, actually, is entertainment. You can never win sa politics if you are not an entertainer. If you don't love people, *paano ka iboboto ng mga tao? Kung sabihin ng mga tao, 'Uy, artista na naman ito.'* Eh anong magagawa mo, *yun ang kilala ng mga tao.* Yun yung madaling kilatin, *kesa naman kung sinong Juan Dela Cruz diyan na hindi mo alam kung saan galing, di ba?"* he rationalized. He further related an anecdote about his moviemaking history when Fernando Poe, Jr. once invited him to be in a movie and told him, "Dito hindi mo kailangan umarte. Ikaw na ikaw itong role na ito. Pagtapos malaman laman ko yung role, illegal recruiter. Putang inang yun."

Nowadays, Puno spends most of his time tinkering around his bar, occasionally chipping in to mop up the floor, clean tables or repair holes and taking the occasional golf game, performing at his bar and doing a movie every now and then. The most recent of which is his turn as Eugene Domingo's father in her latest film, prompting the famous 'Total Entertainer' to shrug his shoulders and say, "Eh anong magagawa ko, *ganun na talaga ngayon.*" Puno may be pushing senior citizenship but at the very heart of this crooner still beats the heart of a young man with his sharp wit and sometimes cringe-inducing humor. "I don't want to forget the good old days," he imparted. **V**

**"ALAM MO,
DALAWANG KLAS
LANG ANG TIPO
NG LALAKE SA
MUNDO: ISANG
GWAPO TSAKA
ISANG SWERTE.
SWERTE AKO EH.**



THE GREATEST HITS OF RICO J. PUNO

During PLAYBOY's interview with Rico J. Puno, a big portion of the time was spent listening to his hit songs and hearing about the history of each song:

Kapalaran

"Pag naririnig mo yan parang simple, no? Pero tungkol sa game of chance ito. Nung araw pag marinig mo yan sa radyo tahimik lahat ng tao. Kanta ng mahirap yan eh. Di ba, para akong umiiyak? It's a song of hope, pareho ng *May Bukas Pa.*"

Sorry Na, Pwede Ba?

"Finally, binigyan ako ni Rey Valera ng kanta, kasi meron siyang binibigay sa akin, tinanggihan ko. Sumama loob niya eh. Alam mo kung ano yun? Ako Si Superman. Noong panahon na yun, parang too much, on top na ako tapos kakanta pa ako na ako si Superman."

May Bukas Pa

"Ang original na istorya nito, nag-tour ako nun sa America, 1978. Nagkaroon ako ng negative publicity dahil flop daw yung mga concert ko sa US. When I came back, yung tao talagang di na ako pinapalakpakan. I needed a song. Ito isasali sana ni Charo Orite sa first Metropop Music Festival. Naki-usap ako sa kanya, considering that she used to be my back-up singer. Sabi ko

sa kanya, 'Give this to me. I need this song.' I wanted to prove to myself that with this song, you will love me again."

Magkasuyo Buong Gabi

"This was the first international collaboration.

Yung ka-duet ko Chinese, si Elsa Chan.

Superstar siya sa Hong Kong during that time and this was the time when the industry wanted to penetrate the international market. *Hirap na hirap ako diyan; hindi marunong mag-Tagalog eh pero ang galing.*"

Macho Guwapito

"Ito double platinum. Ako din ito, tignan mo yung lyrics. Ito naman, parang sa tingin nung composer, bilib lang ako sa sarili ko. Macho Gwapito eh, hindi kasi ako matawag na gwapo eh. 'Laging merong nobya, laging may problema.' Anak ng puta, no? Totoo yun, lagi akong nasasabit. Nanay ko lang tumatawag na gwapo ako, yung mga hindi matanggap, macho gwapito."

One Last Memory

"Hindi ko original ito. Ang original diyan yung narration ko. Pag naririnig ko, naiihi ako, pero yun yung uso nung araw kung paano manligaw. Mga back-up singers ko dito, VST tsaka si Nanette Inventor. Ang pagmamahal hindi kayang ibigay ng kahit na sino. 'Wala, pera pera na ngayon.'"

Bato Sa Buhangin

"Ito sikat na sikat ito nun, yung Cinderella. Kanta rin nila ito, pero iba yung version ko. Biglang pati mga matatanda, sina Mrs. Marcos, nakinig na rin kasi pwede sa both eh. Merong orchestra, kumpleto eh."

Dahil Sa 'Yo

"I was performing in Tacloban nung 1977. Kinanta namin yan ni Mrs. Marcos, buong gabi naming kinakanta yan. A week after, nung Labor Day, inimbatahan ako ni Mrs. Marcos sa PICC. I sang *Kapalaran*. Dapat isa lang. Marami pang nag-request, sabi ko, 'Dapat po sana ka-duet ko si Madam Marcos.' Ang daming security na lumapit kasi wala pang gumagawa nun. Tumayo. Sigawan yung mga tao talaga. Nung kalagitnaan nung kanta, sabi ko, 'Maganda siguro kung andito si presidente.' Anak ng pucha, lalo ng hindi gumagalaw yung security, pero andun kaming tatlo."

Diyos Ang Pag-ibig

"Ito naman, very memorable. Eat Bulaga!, kauumpisa lang. Meron silang contest... yung isang contestant, mamamatay na siya, singer siya sa isang church. Ito yung composition niya. Sabi niya, 'Bago ako mamatay, sana makanta ni Rico Puno yung kanta. Ang ginawa ni Tito Sotto tsaka ng Eat Bulaga!, nag-collaborate. Nagtagpo kami sa show. Nung nagkita kami sa show, may 60-piece orchestra. Kinakanta yan, umiiyak ako eh."

Sana Dalawa Ang Puso Ko

"Bakit ganun, may asawa ka, beauty queen, pero pag may nakita ka, di naman kaakit-akit, walang kakwenta-kwenta, anak ng puta, pero gusto mong kasama? Ito yun eh. 'Demonyo ka, ginulo mo buhay ko.' 'Sana dalawa ang titi ko,' actually yun yun eh."



INTERNATIONAL WOMAN

Going Dutch

BEAU HESLING

PHOTOGRAPHY BY RENÉ DE HAAN AND PATRICK KAAS

WORDS BY JASON INOCENCIO

H

olland. The Netherlands. These two terms are often considered the same, although in truth, Holland is really just a region and former

province on the western coast of the entire Kingdom of the Netherlands. Yes, it can be quite confusing for this land famous for its tulips, its orange-clad football team known as the Oranje and the birthplace of the enigmatic Vincent Van Gogh.

One thing that shouldn't be quite as confounding from the birthplace of "Total Football", however, is the fact that Beau Hesling is very hot. This 26-year-old first made waves in 2012 when she became Playmate of the Month in Holland for February. Since then, she's exploded onto the scene like a supernova. At last count, Beau has appeared in 27 Playboy editions all over the world (including the Philippine edition you're holding in your hands).

Standing at 5'6", the svelte Beau's face and figure has been seen from Slovenia to Argentina, from Germany to Poland and everywhere in between. It shouldn't be such a surprise that the beauty that is Beau has crossed over so easily when one realizes she comes from the same land that produced such influential DJs as Ferry Corsten, DJ Tiesto, and Armin van Buuren. No need to bring it up with Beau though, because she proudly declares herself a "metalhead" rather than a fan of house and trance.

Like an Impressionist masterpiece from Van Gogh's brushstrokes, there are layers to Beau's aesthetic appeal. Little wonder then that beneath the glamorous clothes and beyond the fashion shoots in international settings, this lady is turning heads and is a living, breathing Dutch treat. 🇳🇱



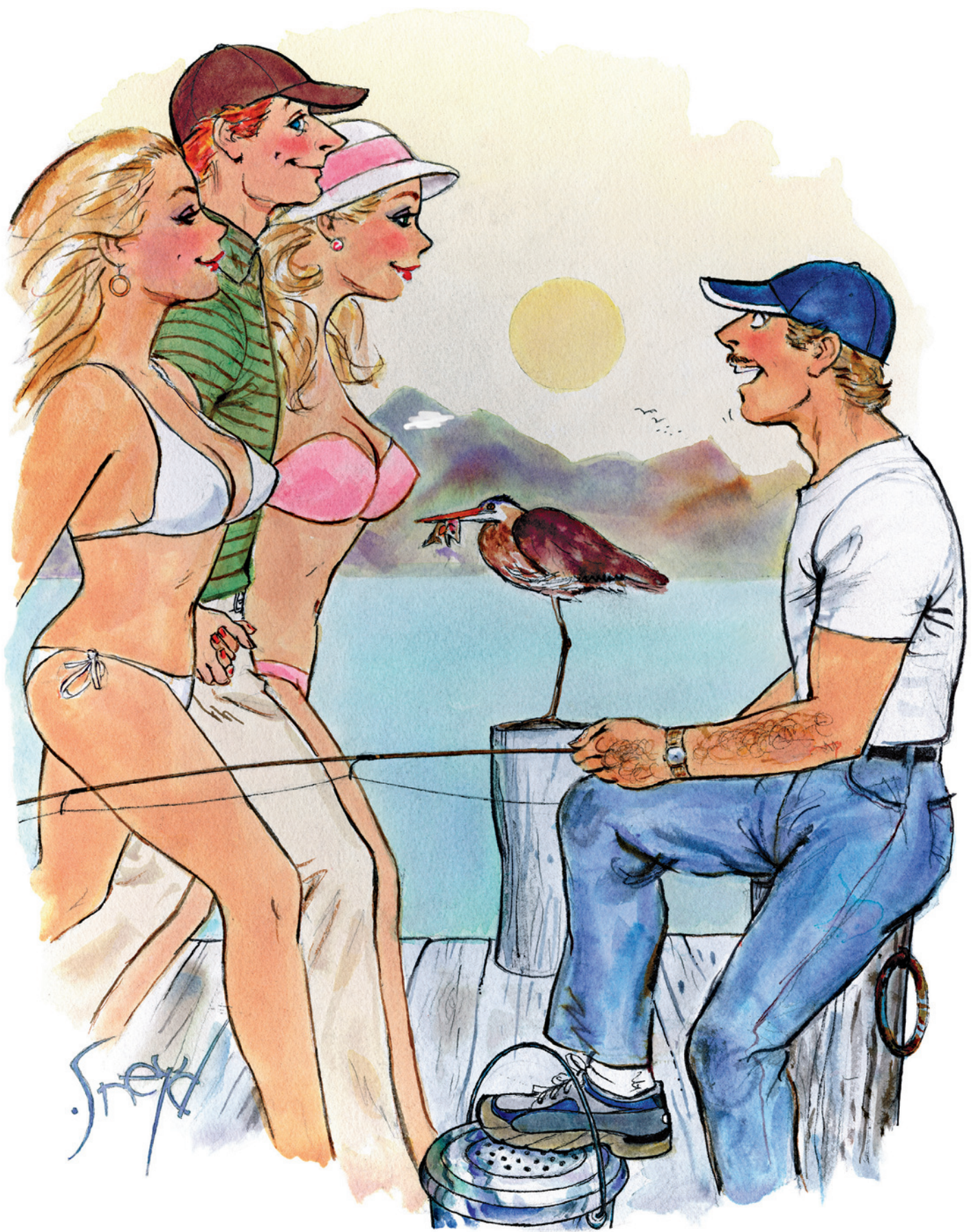












"Mind if I ask what you're using for bait?"

SEPTEMBER 2013 / ISSUE NO.54

DESK

BY DR. MARGARITA HOLMES

FINDING THE

BIG "O"



ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES SANTOS

The nature and psychology of orgasms

What does orgasm mean to you?

Within five hours of posting this question on my Facebook wall, I received more than 50 answers, including:

"The best pain reliever."
"The fountain of youth."
"The ultimate connection."
"Better than chocolate!!"
"...two souls becoming one."
"...namamatay sa saraaaaaap!"
"Kilig to the bones'...total surrender...out of control..."
"The best sleeping pill, mas mahimbing at malalim ang tulog after."
"Pag napapamura ka na at nanginginig na ang laman mo sa sarap."

But before you conclude that we Filipinos all agree that orgasms are one of the best things around, here is what author, poet and multi Palanca-award winner Ed Maranan writes: "(I have) mixed feelings about this overrated Singularity. The Big O lasts only a little longer than the nano-second Big Bang, and always ends with a whimper. In contrast, the pleasure from eating chocolate lasts for hours, and the joy from playing a musical instrument just lasts and lasts. I am, of course, willing to be proven wrong."

In fact, it isn't only Ed Maranan who feels this way; some even feel downright negative about orgasms. Mainly, these silent others fall into two categories. The first are people who suffer from Persistent Sexual Arousal Disorder (PSAS), also known as Persistent Genital Arousal Disorder (PGAD). It is a condition which results in spontaneous and persistent genital arousal, unrelated to any feelings of sexual desire. That, in and of itself, may not seem so bad. However, this arousal is uncontrollable and also unrelated to any feelings of sexual desire. Oftentimes it results in orgasms (but doesn't have to) and when it does, it provides temporary relief, but soon after, sometimes even within an hour, the symptoms return. This can be sudden and unpredictable. Failure or refusal to relieve the symptoms often

results in waves of spontaneous orgasms in women and ejaculation in men. Those unfamiliar with the actual experiences of people suffering from PSAD may think it a wonderful "disorder" to have, even joking that persistent arousal seems a dream come true. However, not only can PSAD be extremely embarrassing, it can also be painful—both figuratively and literally.

It also blights the careers of many who have it, mainly for two reasons. First, people with PSAD oftentimes cannot control their facial expressions and body language while having orgasms and rather than letting others know what's going on, they keep on running somewhere that's private, like the office restroom. Some are so overwhelmed by their disorder; especially those who are unaware what may trigger the orgasmic response that they prefer to miss work on days they feel are more orgasm-prone than others. Both behaviors do not exactly endear one to the powers that be who control the hiring and firing in an organization. In fact, PSAD can be so severe that it has been known to lead to depression and even suicide¹. Often, when people first find out about PSAD and later discover a friend of theirs who actually has it, they are tempted to make jokes like: "Gee, if only I had your problem." Or "God, everyday must feel like Christmas, right?" Word of advice: please don't. It is like making a similar joke to a man who is priapic. Not fun and quite insensitive, really.

Another group of people who don't necessarily welcome orgasms are those who have experienced them involuntarily, that is, have had orgasms that are the result of forced sexual contact, such as during rape or sexual assault. In addition to its being unpleasant (to say the least) during the orgasm itself, the after effect can be even more difficult, since the person experiencing such orgasms may blame herself/himself even if it is not their fault in the slightest. Involuntary orgasms are not to be mistaken for all "forced" orgasms, although literally, involuntary orgasms are forced out of you since the event that brings

this about is not something you want or wanted or tried to make happen.

But another sort of "forced" orgasm can be lots of fun, but if - and only if - done voluntarily, with all parties having a sense of control over the situation. In fact, this type of forced orgasm can be so much fun that that many are willing to pay for it—and often do so. I am speaking mainly of forced orgasms that occur mainly because of BDSM activities—Bondage and/or Discipline (such as spanking) and/or Sadism and/or Masochism. So you have the "john" (usually, but not necessarily, male) willing to pay to have the experience, and the service provider (usually, but again not necessarily, female) willing to provide the service. By the way, the client does not necessarily want to be the one doing the dominating. The client doesn't always want to be the one who spansks, spits on, chains or ties up the victim/slave. Sometimes the client chooses to be the victim and pays someone else to do the spanking, chaining, etc.

I have actually interviewed several women who paid their way through college by engaging in such activities. Many of them had no regrets at all for being involved in BDSM. Two of them still are, even if they no longer need to pay for college. None of them seemed like their experience was so traumatic that they were scarred for life. Many of them now had families, were married to (seemingly) fine men who loved and were loved by them. (I didn't think it politic to ask whether their husbands knew about their former activities or not). I suspect, however, that this type of—well, yes—prostitution had very little negative impact because all the women involved freely chose the profession.

There is so much more one can say about orgasms, but for now, let me end with another Q and A:

Q: What is a divine orgasm?

A: One where the one who experiences it shouts: "Susmaryosep, I'm coming!!" 📌

¹ Tragedy as woman with debilitating sexual arousal disorder... commits suicide, *The Daily Mail*, 04 December 2012

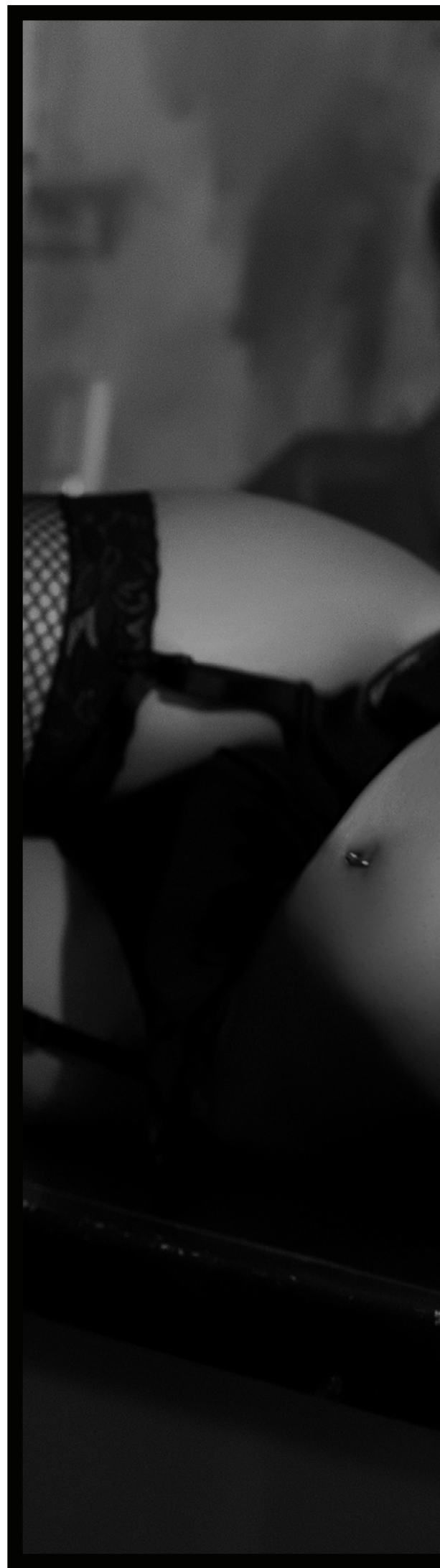


PLAYMATE OF THE MONTH

SONGSTRESS *ABLAZE*

*Miss September knows rope art,
bondage and BDSM. Do we have
your attention now?*

WRITTEN BY
ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
FRANCO RAYMUNDO
ASSISTED BY
JEFF INFANTE
MAKE UP BY
DARVIN MACABALES
HAIR BY
ANDREW JARDENIL
STYLED BY
MATTHEW CHANG







“For me, great sex is about the right mix of submission and domination. A lot of pain goes a long way. I like it really rough and passionate. It should be about what I want. Sex should be a visceral experience.”



What makes a woman hot? Exotic, wild beauty and luscious curves? A brilliant mind, deeply fascinated by art and music? Well, look no further as September's Playmate of the Month has all those characteristics and more. To say that Joyen is a unique character is such an understatement. She graduated Cum Laude with a degree in film from one of the top universities in the country, but her career has revolved around her passion, music. When she is not busy calibrating and fine-tuning music and audio from her work as a sound engineer, Joyen spends her time off with her creative pursuits and passions.

For one, she fronts a metal band, River, as well as an alternative-rock band, the Black Vomits, and performs at various bars like SaGuijo, The Bar@1951 and My Bro's Mustache Folk Bar. Joyen has an eclectic taste in music, which is actually not that big of a surprise given her work and lifestyle. From alternative acts like Garbage, PJ Harvey, Muse and A Perfect Circle; J-rock artists like Dir En Grey and Hyde, even classical musicians like Itzhak Perlman, this Playmate has a broad and complex taste in music.

Aside from being the red-hot songstress of her bands, Joyen is also a photographer whose works often focus on themes such as lust and bondage. A big fan of Araki Nobuyoshi, she's knowledgeable about rope art, bondage and other forms of BDSM. She likes taking sensual portraits

and claims that being a model – which she has been doing now for around six years – completes her experience in photography as she gets to be in front of the camera for a change. “I like the experience of being in front of the camera in the same way that I like being behind it. I enjoyed the shoot, and since PLAYBOY is an international brand, it's the biggest thing that I've done. It's kind of unique to pose in the very same bar where I perform and where I had my first solo photo exhibit (Light and Lust I Rope Studios I).”

When it comes to sex, this woman knows exactly what she wants. Since she's into rope art, bondage and BDSM in her photography, those interests bleed in to her own sex life. She told us, “For me, great sex is about the right mix of submission and domination. A lot of pain goes a long way. I like it really rough and passionate. It should be about what I want. Sex should be a visceral experience.”

To some, our Ms. September, like other very passionate artists and musicians, might be too much to handle. She finds delight in extremes and makes love to a world of experiences and art. “I live my fantasies. I'm a go getter in life, career, love, everything,” she said. There is a pun from an Eraserheads song somewhere here – about wildly colored hair and being in the centerfold of a magazine – but I guess we'll leave figuring that out, and these scorching photos of our Ms. September, to you. 







A fourth-grader was sitting at dinner with his parents. "Pop," he said, "today one of the kids in my class called me gay."

"Well, son." His father said, "tomorrow I want you to walk up to that boy on the playground and punch him right in the nose."

"Do I have to?" the boy responded. "He's really cute."

A creepy guy approached a beautiful woman at a bar with this pickup line: "They should have a sign on my dick that says 'Warning: Choking Hazard.'" She shot back, "Isn't that the label they put on small objects?"

Three words that ruin a man's ego: "Is it in?"
 And three words that ruin a woman's ego: "I don't know."

Any woman who thinks the way to a man's heart is through his stomach is aiming just a little too high.

A younger came home and told his father they'd had a spelling bee at school, but he had missed the very first word.

"What was the word?" the father asked.

"Posse," the boy responded.

"Hell, no wonder you can't spell it," his father remarked. "You can't even pronounce it."

Condoms don't guarantee 100 percent safe sex. A friend of ours was wearing one when he was shot by the woman's husband.

If Rob is short for Robert and you get Willy out of William, how do you get Dick from Richard?
 Ask him nicely.



When a newlywed woman told her girlfriend that marriage was a pain in the ass, her girlfriend replied, "Then you must be doing it all wrong."

What's the difference between a new wife and a new dog?
 After a year, the dog is still excited to see you.

A man stormed into a bar with a gun in his hand and yelled, "Who the hell has been fucking my sister?"

A voice from the back shouted in response, "You don't have enough bullets!"

What's the difference between light and hard?
 You can sleep with a light on.

A woman visited her obstetrician. "Doctor, I'm pregnant again," she said, "I really need a hearing aid."

"I thought we decided at your last visit that your seven children were more than you could handle and that you were not going to have any more," the doctor said. "Did you not hear that?"

"I did," she said, "I'm hard of hearing, but I can read lips in the light of the day."

"So how will a hearing aid stop you from becoming pregnant?" he asked.

"Well, you see," she said, "at night when my husband and I turn off the lights, he asks me, 'Do you want to go to sleep or what?' And I always say, 'What?'"



Rob Neiman

Four guys had been going on an annual fishing trip for many years. Two days before the group was to leave, one of the men's wives threw the book *Fifty Shades of Grey* at him and said, "I've been reading about kinky sex, and I'd much rather you stayed home and had some naughty fun with me."

Conflicted, the man read the book, and when he came home from work on the day of the trip, he was ready for his wife.

"What are you going to do to me?" she cooed excitedly.

"Get on the bed. I am going to tie you up," he said.

"Yes! Yes!" she screamed as he secured her to the bedpost. "And now what?"

He looked her in the eyes and said, "Now I'm going fishing."

What do guys and bras have in common?
 They both hook up behind women's backs.

PLAYBOY
Classic
INTERVIEW

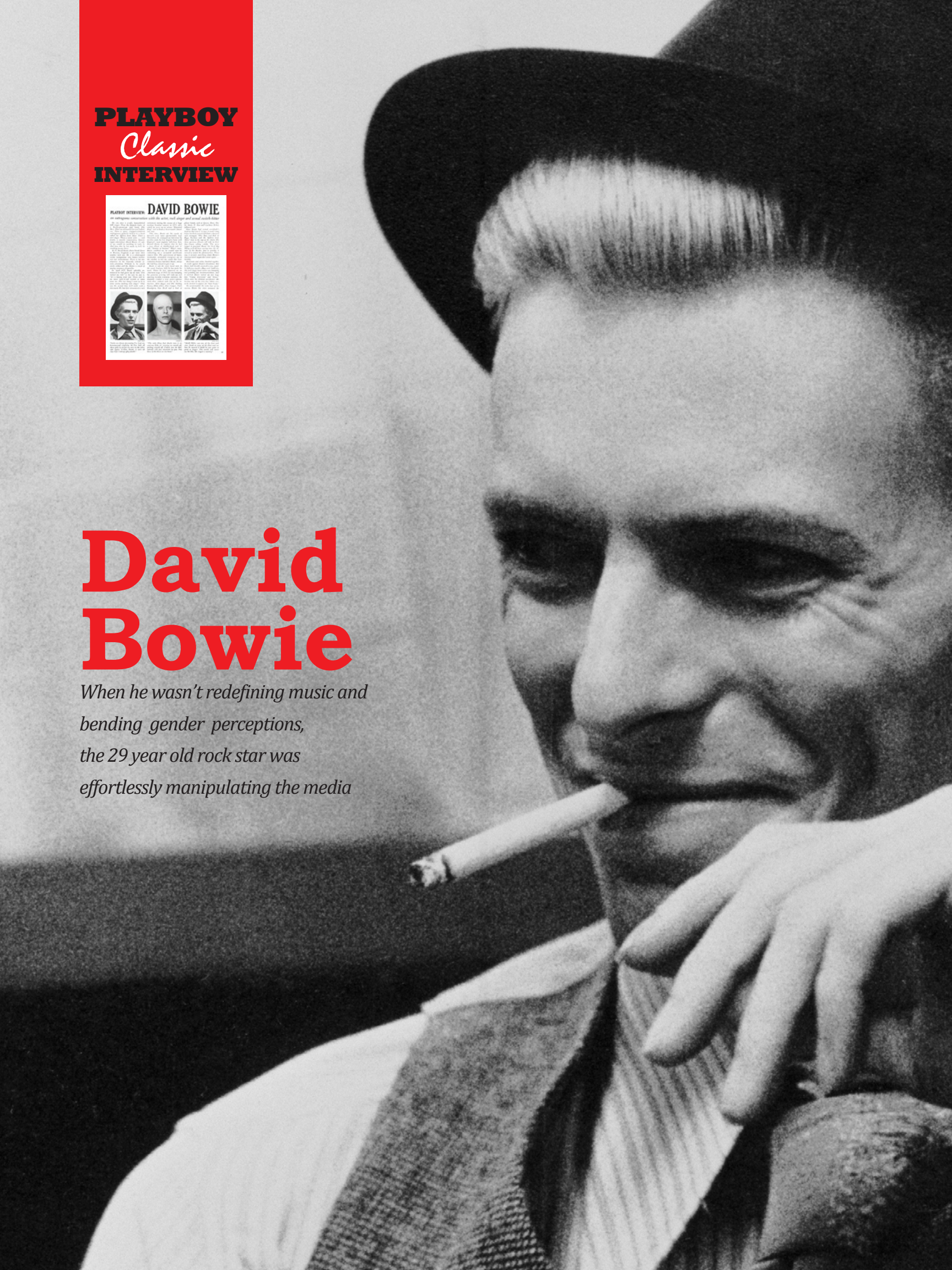
PLAYBOY INTERVIEW: DAVID BOWIE

an outrageous conversation with the actor, rock singer and sexual revolutionist



David Bowie

When he wasn't redefining music and bending gender perceptions, the 29 year old rock star was effortlessly manipulating the media





Among the most influential rock musicians in history, David Bowie has changed musical genres almost as often as he's changed his fashion—and sexuality. Bowie's greatest albums, from *Hunky Dory* to *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders From Mars*, from *Young Americans* to *Station to Station*, are indisputably some of the most important rock recordings of the past four decades. He was the diva of glam rock, inspiring everyone from the Rolling Stones to Elton John to Queen to T. Rex—but he also released soul, traditional rock-and-roll and disco hits. Lady Gaga, Madonna and Michael -Jackson learned from his outrageous makeup, wardrobe and stage personae. And he kept the public guessing about his sexuality. Was he straight? Gay? Bi? All of the above?

Bowie, whose real name is David Jones, is now 66 years old and still making music—his new album, *The Next Day*, is his first in 10 years. He was 29 when he did the *PLAYBOY* Interview with **Cameron Crowe**, the rock journalist who went on to write and direct such movies as *Jerry -Maguire* and *Almost Famous*. It was 1976, a year after the star had announced that he'd given up on rock. "I've rocked my roll" is the way he put it. "It's a boring dead end. The last thing I want to be is some useless fucking rock singer." Crowe quickly learned that Bowie had lied, and in fact there was no letup in recording or touring for decades. At the time of the interview, Crowe reported: "Bowie is expertly charming, whether in the company of a stuffy film executive, another musician or a complete stranger. He is fully aware that he is a sensational quote machine. The more shocking his revelation...the wider his grin. He knows exactly what interviewers consider good copy, and he gives them precisely that. The truth is probably inconsequential."

PLAYBOY: Let's start with the one question you've always seemed to hedge: How much of your bisexuality is fact and how much is gimmick?

BOWIE: It's true—I am a bisexual. But I can't deny that I've used that fact very well. I suppose it's the best thing that ever happened to me. Fun too.

PLAYBOY: Why do you say it's the best thing that ever happened to you?

BOWIE: Well, for one thing, girls are always presuming that I've kept my heterosexual virginity for some reason. So I've had all these girls try to get me over to the other side again: "C'mon, David, it isn't all that bad. I'll show you." Or better yet, "We'll show you." I always play dumb.

On the other hand—I'm sure you want to know about the other hand as well—when I was 14, sex suddenly became all-important to me. It didn't really matter who or what it was with, as long as it was a sexual experience. So it was some very pretty boy in class in some school or other that I took home and neatly fucked on my bed upstairs. And that was it. My first thought was, Well, if I ever get sent to prison, I'll know how to keep happy.

PLAYBOY: Which wouldn't give much slack to your straighter cell mates.

BOWIE: I've always been very chauvinistic, even in my boy-obsessed days. But I was always a gentleman. I always treated my boys like real ladies. Always escorted them properly and, in fact, I suppose if I were a lot older—like 40 or 50—I'd be a wonderful sugar daddy to some -little queen down in Kensington. I'd have a houseboy named Richard to order around.

PLAYBOY: How much of that are we supposed to believe? Your former publicist, the celebrated ex-groupie Cherry Vanilla, says she's slept with you and that you're not gay at all. She says you just let people think you like guys.

BOWIE: Oh, I'd love to meet this impostor she's talking about. It sure ain't me. That's actually a lovely quote. Cherry's almost as good as I am at using the media.

PLAYBOY: Yet the fact remains that you've never been seen with a male lover. Why?

BOWIE: Oh, Lord, I got over being a queen quite a long time ago. For a while, it was pretty much 50-50, and now the only time it tempts me is when I go over to Japan. There are such beautiful-looking little boys over there. Little boys? Not that little. About 18 or 19. They have a wonderful sort of mentality. They're all queens until they reach 25, then suddenly they become samurai, get married and have thousands of children. I love it.

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THE PATH OF THE BANDA

WE TRACE HOW THE PINOY MUSIC SCENE, MORE SPECIFICALLY THE PINOY BANDA, HAS ROCKED ON (OR MELLOWED OUT) AS THE YEARS GO BY.

THERE'S NO DENYING THAT FILIPINOS HAVE A DEEP CONNECTION TO MUSIC. IN THIS INFOGRAPHIC,

RONQUILLO BAND 45

YEARS ACTIVE: 1945-PRESENT

The Ronquillo Band 45 was established in General Tinio, Nueva Ecija in 1945 by Santiago Ronquillo II and is one of the first big bands to be documented in the country. The brass band remains active to this day.

JUAN DELA CRUZ BAND

YEARS ACTIVE: 1968-1979, 2009-2010

Though initially formed in 1968, Juan de la Cruz Band has undergone several line-up changes but the final line-up is made up of the powerhouse trio that is Wally Gonzales, Mike Hanopol and Joey "Pepe" Smith, cementing them as one of the most significant rock bands in the country.

Hits: *Himig Natin, Panahon, Tisler's Enemy No. 1, No Touch, Balong Malalim, Langit*

APO HIKING SOCIETY

YEARS ACTIVE: 1969-2010

APO Hiking Society is a Filipino music group composed of Buboy Garovillo, Danny Javier and Jim Paredes. Known for their witty lyrics and upbeat melody, APO Hiking Society made 27 albums in the span of their four-decade career.

Hits: *Mahirap Magmahal Ng Syota Ng Iba, Panalangin, When I Met You, Batang Bata Ka Pa, Ewan, Awit Ng Barkada*

MARIA CAFRA

YEARS ACTIVE: 1970s

Named after a local bird, Maria Cafra was led by frontman and guitarist, Resty Fabunan (the Jimi Hendrix of the Philippine music scene), bassist Jun Fabunan and drummer Rolie Averilla.

Hits: *Balat kayo, Estranghero, Kumusta Mga Kaibigan, Tala Sa Umaga*

HAGIBIS

YEARS ACTIVE: 1970s-1980s

Hagibis was an all-male singing group during the 80's known for their macho, dashing and mustachioed looks and provocative music.

Hits: *Legs, Katawan, Maginoo, Macho*

HOTDOG

YEARS ACTIVE: 1970s

Hotdog is often acknowledged as one of the proponents of the Manila Sound genre, known for its upbeat music and catchy, tongue-in-cheek lyrics.

Hits: *Annie Batungbakal, Beh Buti Nga, Ikaw ang Miss Universe ng Buhay Ko*

ASIN

YEARS ACTIVE: 1976-1979; 1983-PRESENT

Known for using Filipino indigenous instruments in their songs, ASIN wanted to infuse and give justice to Filipino tribal music in their own brand of Filipino Pop/Rock.

Hits: *Ang Bayan Kong Sinilangan, Himig ng Pag-ibig, Usok*

VST & COMPANY

YEARS ACTIVE: 1976-1990

During the late 1970s, VST & Company rose as one of the most iconic music groups under the Manila Sound genre. This group is virtually synonymous to Filipino disco.

Hits: *Swing It, Baby, Magsayawan, Ipagpatawad Mo, Awitin Mo, Isasayaw Ko, Disco Fever*



THE JERKS

YEARS ACTIVE: 1979-PRESENT

Formed in 1979, The Jerks never quite reached widespread commercial success. However, they are iconic as underground legends that have inspired and influenced countless OPM acts.

Hits: *Sayaw Sa Bubog, Reklamo ng Reklamo*

THE WUDS

YEARS ACTIVE: 1980S-1990S

When talking about the punk movement here in the Philippines, The Wuds is the first and the last name that comes to mind. Politically-driven and in-your-face, The Wuds talked about issues that very few bands dared touch.

Hits: *Takipsilim, At Nakalimutan ang Diyos, Inosente Lang Ang Nagtataka*

THE DAWN

**YEARS ACTIVE: 1985-1995;
2000-PRESENT**

New Wave/Rock Alternative band The Dawn was formed in 1985 by guitar legend, Teddy Diaz. At the height of their career, Teddy was stabbed to death in front of his girlfriend's house by two allegedly drugged and drunk men. They disbanded a few years after that but later reformed in 2000.

Hits: *Salamat, Tulad Ng Dati, I Stand With You*

COLOR IT RED

YEARS ACTIVE: 1989-PRESENT

Filipino alternative pop/rock band, Color It Red, was formed in 1989 by Cooky Chua, Barbi Crisit and Maricar Florendo. With heartfelt lyrics and pop/alternative tunes, this band is still active and is currently crowdsourcing their fifth album.

Hits: *Paglasan, I Need You Here, Dalawa*

ERASERHEADS

YEARS ACTIVE: 1989-2002

By far the most recognizable and iconic Pinoy band, Eraserheads was a rock band known for their mass appeal and infectious music. Ely Buendia, Raymund Marasigan, Buddy Zabala and Marcus Adoro spawned countless covers and revivals and strongly-influenced other rock bands that followed.

Hits: *Ang Huling El Bimbo, With A Smile, Ligaya, Magasin, Spolarium, Toyang*

RAZORBACK

YEARS ACTIVE: 1990-PRESENT

Razorback is a world-class Filipino Rock band that received critical acclaim for their hits like Payaso and Ikot ng Mundo. The band has opened for international acts like Silverchair, Rage Against the Machine and Metallica.

Hits: *Giyang, Payaso, Ikot ng Mundo*

PRETTIER THAN PINK

YEARS ACTIVE: 1991-1997

Prettier Than Pink is an all-female pop rock group from the Philippines. Formed by Lei Bautista, Annie Trillo, Gretchen Gregorio and Vanessa Garcia back in 1991, the band topped the charts with their playful lyrics and catchy melody.

Hits: *Cool Ka Lang, Para Sa Iyo*

WOLFGANG

**YEARS ACTIVE: 1992-2002,
2007-PRESENT**

Considered the "Metallica of the Philippines," Wolfgang is a cornerstone of '90s Pinoy rock. If Eraserheads had mass appeal, Wolfgang had a solid fanbase who couldn't seem to get enough of their hard-hitting songs and intense riffs.

Hits: *Anino, Arise*

PAROKYANI EDGAR

YEARS ACTIVE: 1993-PRESENT

Parokya Ni Edgar is best known for their comedic, rock novelty songs. Dubbed "Pambansang Banda", they still remain as one of the best OPM acts as they never fail to reinvent their sound while maintaining a strong bond with their fans.

Hits: *Buloy, Harana, Halaga, The Yes Yes Show*

YANO

**YEARS ACTIVE: 1993-1997,
2007-PRESENT**

Like many Pinoy bands, Yano, the Dong Abay-helmed band, originated in UP and has captured the masses with their political and social critiques and passionate music.

Hits: *Banal Na Aso, Santong Kabayo, Esem*

RIVERMAYA

YEARS ACTIVE: 1994-PRESENT

Despite the Eraserheads mania that swept the nation during their time, Rivermaya rose to fame with their distinctively well-arranged songs and emotionally-charged lyrics. The band continues to enjoy a strong following to this day.

Hits: *Kisapmata, Elesi, You'll Be Safe Here*

SANDWICH

YEARS ACTIVE: 1995-PRESENT

With Raymund Marasigan at the helm, Sandwich was an alternative rock band that flourished in the late 90's. Throughout the years, the band has significantly reinvented their sound but still had that distinct Sandwich appeal.

Hits: *Butterfly Carnival, Masilungan, Two-Trick Pony, Betamax, Sugod*

SLAPSHOCK

YEARS ACTIVE: 1996-PRESENT

Formed in 1996, Slapshock is a rap metal act that has received a dedicated following both here and abroad. Though their sound has evolved to be more 'metalcore' nowadays, they are still active and continue to perform in local concerts.

Hits: *Agent Orange, Cariño Brutal, Direction*

SUGARFREE

YEARS ACTIVE: 1999-2011

Sugarfree was a pop-alternative group formed in 1999. With their sincere and catchy lyrics, the band had five albums together but disbanded in 2011.

Hits: *Burnout, Hari Ng Sablay, Tulog Na*

KAMIKAZEE

YEARS ACTIVE: 2000-PRESENT

Another UP Diliman band, Kamikazee's early gigs were mostly during events like the annual UP Fair. Energetic, comical, creative, and wild, the pop-punk band reached commercial success with their song, Narda.

Hits: *Narda, Ambisyoso, Chiksilog*

URBANDUB

YEARS ACTIVE: 2000-PRESENT

Hailing from the Queen city of the South, Urbandub is an alternative rock band that started out in 2000. Known for their excellent guitar riffs and fierce drums, they garnered quite a fanbase throughout South East Asia.

Hits: *Soul Searching, Alert the Armory, First of Summer, Guillotine*

BAMBOO

YEARS ACTIVE: 2002-2011

Headed by Francisco "Bamboo" Mañalac, Bamboo is made up of Ira Cruz, Nathan Azarcon, and Vic Mercado. The second coming of the Prince of Pinoy Rock, the band plays indie rock and jazz fusion and exploded in the music scene in 2002 but disbanded in 2011.

Hits: *Noypi, Tatsulok, Hallelujah*

UP DHARMA DOWN

YEARS ACTIVE: 2004-PRESENT

An award-winning post-rock, jazz fusion band, Up Dharma Down started in 2004 with Armi Millare, Paul Yap, Ean Mayor and Carlos Tanada. Known for their eclectic sound and unique, passionate vocals, the band has thus far released three albums that have received favorable reviews and critiques.

Hits: *Oo, Sana, Turn it Well*



SEX & MUSIC

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TONY KELLY

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS OUR DISTINCT PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOU THE EVENING'S STAR ATTRACTION—AN ACT SO WILD, SO ELECTRIFYING, IT WILL SURELY BE AN EXPERIENCE THE LIKES OF WHICH YOU SHALL NEVER FORGET. HERE THEY ARE, COMING TO YOU LIVE ONE NIGHT FROM OUR STUDIOS IN BEVERLY HILLS: THE INIMITABLE, THE SENSATIONAL PLAYBOY POWER TRIO. PLEASE WELCOME PLAYMATES BRITANY NOLA, CIARA PRICE AND RAQUEL POMPLUN.













PLAYBOY CLUB
LONDON

LONDON CALLING

T + 44(0)20 7491 8586
W www.playboyclublondon.com

14 Old Park Lane
London W1K 1ND
United Kingdom

20 QUESTIONS

THE OKTAVES

INTERVIEW BY LAUREN ACURANTES & ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY OWEN REYES
GROOMING BY DARVIN MACABALES AND ANDREW JARDENIL
SHOT AT THE REPUBLIC SUPERCLUB

A CANDID, HUMOROUS CONVERSATION WITH
THE OKTAVES ABOUT BEING A '**SUPERBAND**',
INTERNAL DYNAMICS, AND USING THEIR
ROCKSTAR CARDS TO GET LUCKY.



Q.1

How would you define a 'superband'?

Nitoy Adriano (NA): A band that can fly on stage. [laughs] Actually there's a lot of 'superbands' and we happen to be one of them.

Ivan Garcia (IG): The Beatles and The Rolling Stones. 'Nuff said.

Ely Buendia (EB): A group whose members come from various already well known acts.

Chris Padilla (CP): A band.

Bobby Padilla (BP): When bands feel super. [laughs]

Q.2

How do you guys feel about being touted as a 'superband'?

IG: For me it feels kind of awkward because, of course, what am I compared to what I defined as a superband. Marami pa akong kakaining bigas, tsaka suntok sa buwan para maabot yun. Baka nga wala pa ako sa kalingkingan; nastereotype lang talaga! Pero salamat na rin kung superband, di ko lang din maramdaman pero syempre honored naman kami sa Hilera na makasama sila Nitoy at Ely. [laughs]

EB: It doesn't concern me. It's only the most convenient tag for most people.

CP: Awkward.

Q.3

What's the advantage of working with bandmates from different backgrounds and age groups?

NA: There's respect towards each other.

IG: Of course you can learn a lot mutually from each other. Nitoy and Ely have old styles of playing which I think really works, both of them are veterans while us kids inspire them with our energy and drive to play and write music. With that chemistry [and] in this era, I guess things work pretty well.

BP: You get the chance to learn from what they experienced, good or bad. It helps you think right.

Q.4

Were you all fans of each other's previous works?

NA: Yes, except Hilera, but when I started playing with them, I became a fan. They're awesome!

IG: We, Hilera, are fans of their works, Nitoy is a really good guitarist and The Jerks are key figures in the music scene while Ely, of course, wrote good music with The Eraserheads.

EB: I was, and still am, a big fan of everyone as musicians and as people.

Q.5

With three generations of rock legends teaming up together to form this super group, don't you have challenges with, say, the generation gap?

NA: No, we don't really have problems with

that. I think that in terms of musical influences, we are very much on the same page. We have the same musical preferences. We zone into the music of The Beatles, Elvis, Rolling Stones, The Smiths, and Stray Cats among other music greats.

Q.6

As a group, what is your biggest fear?

EB: Our biggest fear would be not to be seen as a group. We all come from great bands and because of that people identify us a part of this and that group. We want to be seen as a single musical act despite [the fact] that we still play for other bands. I hope that the local music audience sees The Oktaves more as a musical collaboration, not a side project.

Q.7

A band is almost always identified with its lead singer. Chris is still the frontman of Hilera, and you are still with Pupil, and this Ely Buendia stamp is just inevitable. What are your thoughts on this?

EB: That, in part also answers your previous question. But I believe so strongly in this band. What makes the Oktaves unique is that every member of this band played a pivotal role at each turning point of the Filipino music scene. Each member is as important as the other.

Q.8

What's behind the name "Oktaves"?

CP: Octaves was the name of the garage band that my dad formed. I suggested the name, gave it a slight tweak and we all agreed on it. I think the name is actually perfect. Musically, notes in an octave "ring" in harmony. I'd like to think that despite our diversity as a group, we all fit together.

Q.9

If there is a song that you like playing as a group, whether during a gig or a jam session, what would it be?

CP: Well, we mostly play our original songs during rehearsal, but apart from that we love jamming to the music of Stray Cats.

"WE, HILERA, ARE FANS OF THEIR WORKS, NITOIY IS A REALLY GOOD GUITARIST AND THE JERKS ARE KEY FIGURES IN THE MUSIC SCENE WHILE ELY, OF COURSE, WROTE GOOD MUSIC WITH THE ERASERHEADS." - IVAN GARCIA

“

OUR BIGGEST FEAR WOULD BE NOT TO BE SEEN AS A GROUP. WE ALL COME FROM GREAT BANDS AND BECAUSE OF THAT PEOPLE IDENTIFY US A PART OF THIS AND THAT GROUP.

-ELY BUENDIA

”

Q.10

Nitoy, as the senior member of the group, having been in the music scene since the early 80s, how do you think Pinoy music has evolved?

NA: A lot of younger generations today want to be musicians. Almost every band is composing Pinoy music and that's great. You can hear different types of music being played, Pinoy style.

Q.11

Your former group, The Jerks, is said to be 'protest-oriented'. What is The Oktaves' orientation?

NA: We also have one protest song, some love songs, songs about relationships. Just a lot of good old rock n' roll.

Q.12

Hilera boys, you make up a majority of the band yet you are also the juniors. Do you find that you have a good amount of say over band activities by virtue of sheer number or none at all by virtue of being juniors?

IG: We find that we have a good amount of say because Ely and Nitoy are open to suggestions and there is a mutual respect among the members of the group.

Q.13

Whose music is the biggest influence in the group: The Jerks, Eraserheads or Hilera?

NA: E-heads.

IG: I'd say all of the above. The Oktaves are pretty different from all of our bands, though. It's like coming together from different genres or generations, but when we formed, we had this one music which we all loved; that music is also applicable to The Jerks, Eraserheads and Hilera. That makes it difficult to trace who's got the biggest influence.

EB: I would say Hilera and The Jerks.

Q.14

Bobby, when you first started out playing for Hilera, you'd only been playing the drums for two months. And now you're part of a 'superband' playing with veterans in the industry. How does it feel being in the big leagues now?

BP: It makes me smile even when I'm sad, but



"A LOT OF YOUNGER GENERATIONS TODAY WANT TO BE MUSICIANS. ALMOST EVERY BAND IS COMPOSING PINOY MUSIC AND THAT'S GREAT. YOU CAN HEAR DIFFERENT TYPES OF MUSIC BEING PLAYED, PINOY STYLE." -NITOY ADRIANO

dreams do come true. I've been learning a lot being surrounded by these guys. I love them to death. [laughs]

Q.15

Ivan, what's with the hair?

IG: I just feel comfortable with it. For the past 15 years, I've tried different cuts and styles. I just think that this suits me best. Some like it, some don't. Plus, I cut my own hair. [laughs]

Q.16

Chris, you are arguably the looker in the group kinda like Joe Perry in Aerosmith. Are you the one bringing in the lady fans?

CP: Thanks, but no, not really. [smiles cheekily]

Q.17

Which band member is most likely to pull the 'I'm a rockstar' card just to get laid?

IG: [laughs] I don't really know and I've never done such [a] thing. I guess none of us would do that ... that would be pretty conceited. But, of course, we all wanna get laid! But to pull that

card would look desperate. Most probably that stunt will end in a cockblock ... and the girls are just gonna fucking tease you! 'Rakstar ka pala ha akala mo makakasibak ka?'

CP: Secret.

BP: Nitoy! [laughs] I'm kidding ... NOTiy! [laughs] Whatever. [shakes head]

Q.18

Is Nitoy considered to be the elder rock god in this group, the hand of discipline?

IG: He is actually the most childish. **EB:** Childlike! But he is honestly, what keeps this band together.

Q.19

Your self-titled album has been out for quite some time now. Tell us more about it.

CP: It has 12 tracks. Ely and I share song writing and vocal duties. Our first single K.U.P.A.L (K.P.L), was nominated in two categories in this year's Awit Awards. It was number one in the singles charts for digital sales when it came out. The Oktaves album spent some time at the top spot for nationwide CD sales. We are doing really and we can't wait for the next

album. Right now, we are currently working on the finishing touches of the music video for Paakayat ka pa lang, Pababa na ako.

Q.20

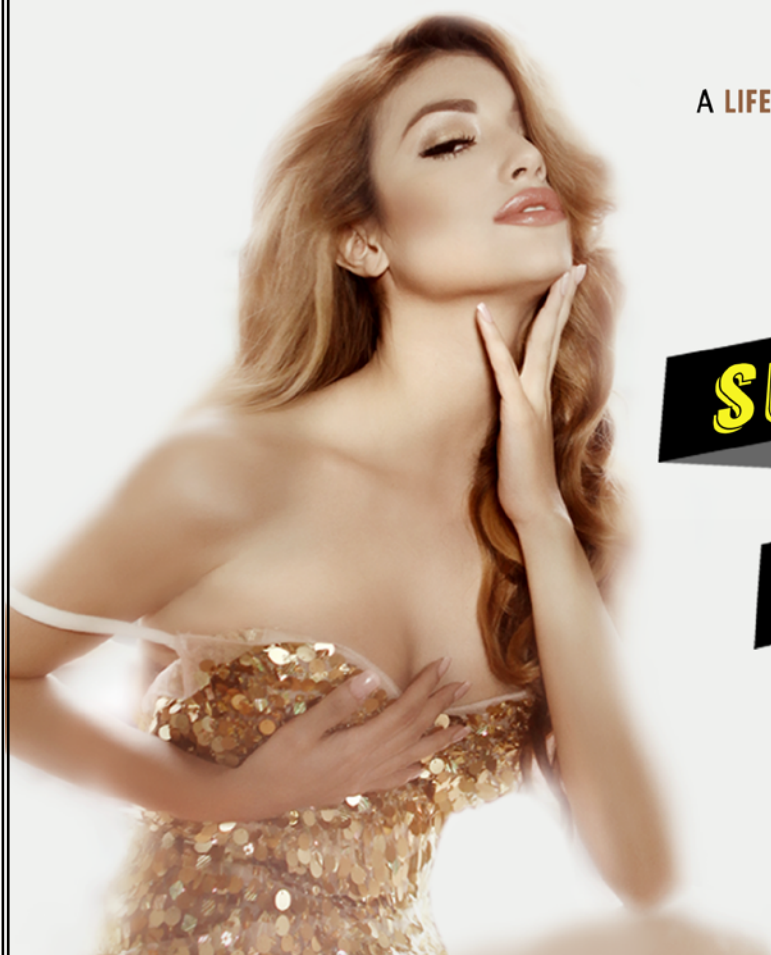
What do you guys say to people who claim that OPM is dead?

NA: OPM is very much alive, even when lots of foreign singers or bands are coming. They can't sing in Tagalog.

IG: Well, they can believe that OPM is dead all they want. The local music scene is pretty small so why don't we just support each other instead of gossiping, elitism, dissing and cussing. Music is not a gang or a clan, it is for everybody. The rock scene alone is much divided: the true fans, the elite hipsters, the indie or underground and the mainstream. Colonial mentality is another factor. With third world problems people may regard music arts and entertainment as a last thing to think about.

With all this pessimism, people will gradually send OPM to the grave. I know this may sound corny and cliché, but why don't we all just unite and start changing this attitude within ourselves and start appreciating it more and be more open-minded?

EB: You're dead. ☹



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PLAYBOY's 2013

MUSIC GUIDE

BY ROB TANNENBAUM

IT'S A
BOLD
NEW
WORLD.
HERE
ARE THE
ARTISTS,

TRENDS
AND
MORE
YOU'LL
BE
TALKING
ABOUT



◀ MAYA VIK SHE'S GOT LEGS

This glamorous, leggy Norwegian singer and bass player is somehow unknown in the U.S., which is odd because her best songs, including "Bummer Gun" and "On It (Kapow!)," have a funky electronic eccentricity that recalls the 1980s smashes Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis concocted for the S.O.S. Band, Alexander O'Neal and Janet Jackson. And Vik's cover of Ready for the World's "Oh Sheila" is so spot-on, it's no wonder she has a Jheri curl.

▼ MY BLOODY VALENTINE GREATEST EXPECTATIONS



On the band's Facebook page, a follower from Chicago -recently likened being a My Bloody Valentine fan to rooting for the Cubs. That's not fair: Cubs fans have been waiting since 1908, and MBV took a mere 22 years to follow up *Loveless*, a shimmering landmark of noise and overtones, a kind of Sgt. Pepper's for hipsters. The new release, *m b v*, is small by comparison but still distorted and gorgeously mysterious. Another great development: The band has resumed touring, and its shows are not to be missed. The one time we saw MBV, the volume was so loud we had an auditory hallucination.

▼ VIJAY IYER KEY PLAYER

It's easy to admire the range of music and musicians this South Indian American pianist explores, including, on his wonderful recent album *Accelerando*, -Michael Jackson and Duke Ellington. But what distinguishes him is his storming groove, which falls in rapid clusters of notes and gales of chords. Iyer plays as though he thinks his piano is a drum kit.



▶ CAITLIN ROSE COUNTRY ADJACENT

Here's the Nashville they don't show you on Nashville. Caitlin Rose is the daughter of a successful country songwriter, but at the age of 16 she preferred the Ramones. Now 25, she writes graceful, tender songs at the outskirts of the country tradition—Patsy Cline never sang "Let's move this fucking jet." But it's not the cursing (or the banjo and slide guitars) that elevates her second album, *The Stand-In*; it's how Rose finds sensational new ways to describe loneliness and regret.



▲ JOSÉ JAMES THE COOL REBORN

Black music never sits still for long, so to call José James a traditionalist means he's conversant with more than 50 years of influences, including dim-the-lights jazz, the minimalist funk of Gil Scott-Heron and the kind of soft-falling hip-hop beats used by D'Angelo and A Tribe Called Quest. It's a rebirth of cool: On *No Beginning No End*, this son of a Panamanian sax player uses his voice like a horn, murmuring oblique lyrics about separation and desire.



▶ ANY MAJOR DUDE WITH HALF A HEART STREAM OF DREAMS

All blogs have strong opinions, but few have the expertise and imagination of Any Major Dude With Half a Heart. A champion of the championless, the Dude puts together thematic MP3 playlists. The best posts at HalfheartedDude.com are the R&B compilations from the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, which resurrect great songs that should never have been forgotten.

▼ KENDRICK LAMAR

RAP REALISM



Kendrick Lamar was born 25 years ago in Compton, California, the same time and city in which N.W.A introduced the fuck-tha-police code of gangsta rap. Guided by N.W.A producer Dr. Dre, Lamar recounts his adolescent delight in drugs, women and crime. But he's not a gangsta—he's caught between gangs and cops, neither of whom he likes. He calls his album *good kid, m.A.A.d city* "a short film," and the striking narrative may remind you of *The Wire*. We won't spoil the ending.

▲ DEAP VALLY

WOMEN GONE WILD

There's no way around the comparison: Deap Vally sounds a lot like the White Stripes. Vally plays loopy, distorted blues rock, and it's a duo. But it's a duo of women, which is a crucial difference. When singer-guitarist Lindsey Troy crows, "I'm gonna make my own money" or reprimands an unfaithful man, she and drummer Julie Edwards claim an equal right to defiance and autonomy.

▶ CHVRCHES

WE LOVE THE '80S

Eighties electro-pop hasn't sounded this great since, well, the 1980s. Amid chilly, stabbing synthesizers, Lauren Mayberry (half Natalie Portman, half Audrey Tautou) calmly coos lyrics such as "I'll be a thorn in your side till you die." With "Lies," "We Sink" and "The Mother We Share," this retro Glasgow trio became our favorite new band of 2013, as they would have been in 1983.

▼ CLOUD NOTHING

WHITE NOISE

Lots of white boys in T-shirts can make a guitar ruckus, but these mangy Cleveland hair balls steer through the skids as they mix astringent guitars with bristling lyrics about postcollege frustration, harnessing mayhem to keep moving forward. Singer Dylan Baldi has said *Attack on Memory*'s eight songs are "all sort of depressing," but depression is rarely this exhilarating.



▶ RICHARD HELL

PAPER TIGER

Richard Hell (no, it's not his real name) was a founding member of three momentous mid-1970s New York bands: Television, the Heartbreakers, and Richard Hell and the Voidoids. His memoir *I Dreamed I Was a Very Clean Tramp* fearlessly recounts the social, musical and narcotic history of downtown culture and punk rock: poverty, ennui, safety pins, foreign films, misanthropes and a dead turtle Hell kept in a glass jar "as a sort of decoration or artwork."

▼ PI RECORDINGS

THE LITTLE LABEL THAT COULD

Launching a jazz label in the 21st century seems like an insane idea. Yet since it started in 2001, Pi Recordings has released vibrant, daring records, often dominating critics' polls despite issuing only three to five releases a year. David Virelles, Henry Threadgill and other Pi artists all "aim for some edge that hasn't been reached out to before," says Yulun Wang, a former investment banker who runs the label with founder Seth Rosner.

▶ BARONESS

HAIR TODAY

The traditions of AC/DC and Led Zeppelin have gone awry: It's more difficult than ever to find headbangers who don't sing about Satan's cock or howl as though they're surrounded by zombies. Baroness, a quartet out of Georgia, achieves twisted catharsis in heavy, complex ruminations that never sound ludicrous. The band has toured with Metallica, but its songs "Little Things" and "Cocainium" also show a curiosity about funk music.



▼ GOAT OCCULT FOLLOWERS



They look like they escaped from the pawnshop basement scene in *Pulp Fiction*. Masked, mysterious and often bare-chested, Goat claims a backstory that sounds like bunk: Supposedly the band lives in a commune in Korpilombolo, a small town in northern Sweden with an ancient history of voodoo worship. On *World Music*, Goat combines 1960s psychedelic guitars, tribal village percussion and organ drones with simple, ominous chants ("Boy, you better run to your mama now"). It's an evil yet joyful din, like a pagan cult having an orgy under a solstice moon.

▼ RICHARD THOMPSON TRUE BRIT

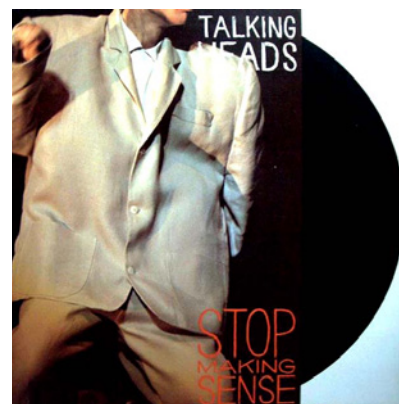


He has been making records since 1968 and has won a couple lifetime-achievement awards, yet 314 million Americans have never heard this sensational British rock guitarist. Thompson's new album, *Electric*, adds plenty of ornery, braying solos to grimly funny songs about conflict and betrayal. The uninitiated could start with earlier records: *Amnesia*, *Hand of Kindness* or *Shoot Out the Lights*, about the collapse of a marriage.

▼ ELLE VARNER THE RHYTHM METHOD



R&B singers should do one song about sex for every two songs about love, and this personable NYU grad caught our ear with "Sound Proof Room," a bouncy, commanding request for a noise-making tryst. Her debut album, *Perfectly Imperfect*, has a hint of throwback (classic-soul fans won't be disappointed), as well as a winning sense of humor: "I can't help being depressed/When I look down at my chest," Varner sings amiably.



DOCUMENTARIES WORTH LISTENING TO

By incorporating interviews with musicians from Barry Manilow to punk-rock howler Lee Ving, Dave Grohl of Foo Fighters turns his documentary *Sound City* (1) into a poignant and funny recounting of the heyday of a dilapidated Van Nuys, California recording studio. It's on a par with our other favorite rock docs, which are now easy to find online or through pay-per-view: 1984's *Stop Making Sense* (2), a giddy and elegant concert film of Talking Heads' theatrical funk-rock; and 2010's *Who Is Harry Nilsson?* (3), which retraces the lovely art, grim childhood and madcap -addictions of an American singer beloved by the Beatles.

Pinoy Music Guide 2013

The Philippines has a surplus of talented and sincere musicians. Here in PLAYBOY, we want you to always be aware of the latest and hottest music from this country's vast pool of creative and passionate talents. Let us be your guide in navigating this colorful industry as we point you in the right direction where Pinoy musical brilliance is at its best.

IDENTIKIT

Indie/Synth Rock band, Identikit has just released their debut album, *Out of the Floodways and Into Your Homes*, early this year but they are already gaining traction. With their sincere lyrics, shoegazing guitar effects, chill vocals, playful synths and contrastingly heavy riffs, we genuinely believe that this band is set to conquer Filipino airwaves soon. Sandy Buladaco on vocals, Joe De Jesus on guitars/noise, Manny Marinas on drums, and Darrel Ballesteros on bass, Identikit has a distinct identity that would surely find their niche in this colorful music industry. Listen to their songs, *Weird Just Friends*, *Peach and Me* & *My Japanese Bike* if you still need convincing.



DONG ABAY AND THE TANODS



Known for his deeply political and social musings in *Yano*, *Pan* and *dongabay*, no one can deny that Dong Abay, as a musician/artist, helped push the Filipino music industry to new heights. Dong Abay and the Tanods is a super group of sorts composed of iconic names in the industry like Dong Abay (vocals), Buddy Zabala (bass), Tim Cacho (guitars), Jesse Grinter (guitars), Mon Punzalan (samples and visuals) and Mark Escueta (drums).

ANG BANDANG SHIRLEY

Ang Bandang Shirley is known for their highly sentimental and heartfelt songs, the kinds of which you'll probably sing to your dearly beloved (or you'll listen to in moments of melancholia and loss). However, this signature charm does not stop the band from reinventing itself and experimenting with new sound. Their latest album, *Tama Na Ang Drama* is proof of that growth. With unique songs that experiment with new styles like *Glacier* and *Acid Reflux* as well as modern Shirley classics like *Iyong*, *Nakauwi Na* and *Di Na Babalik*, *Tama Na Ang Drama* is still full of heart yet manages to be visionary at the same time.

EARTHMOVER

An instrumental, post-rock band from Quezon City, Earthmover is made up of Daniel Garcia (guitars), Gerald Guerrero (bass), and Dru Ubaldo (drums, samples). Using their instruments alone, the band creates atmospheres and moods almost tangible in the air – something that one should experience live to drown in their dramatic riffs, hypnotic bass lines, creative and playful percussions. Try listening to their music doing mundane tasks and feel those tasks transform into more melodramatic, triumphant and colorful labors. If you're not listening to them yet, you can start with the song, *two*, to get a taste of their music.



THE STRANGENESS

You probably remember and loved The Strangeness from the *Ang Nawawala* soundtrack. If you never caught that film, The Strangeness is a lo-fi garage/punk rock band that churns out the sonic equivalent of alcohol – the kind that leaves you dancing until you expire in a drunken stupor. If you love Black Flag, The Ramones and a less violent and hyperactive Sex Pistols, The Strangeness would give you the buzz you've been aching to find in our local bands. Their current line-up features Francis Cabal on guitars/vocals, Bijan Gorospe on bass/vocals, Jayme Ancla on guitars/vocals, Erwin Hilao on drums/vocals, Ivan Brosas on synths/guitars, and Shinji Manlangit on vocals and tambourines.

GAIJIN

Raimund Marasigan is an intensely passionate musician who has been part of acts such as Eraserheads, Cambio, Sandwich, Pedicab, and many more. Another one of Raimund Marasigan's many creative outlets, Gaijin, combines the talented Shinji Tanaka (drums), Jesse Grinter (guitars, vocals) and Marasigan (bass) in an independent rock outfit unlike any other. Gaijin, which translates to foreigner in Japanese (Tanaka is Japanese, Grinter is American, and Marasigan is Filipino), has its eyes set on the international music scene. If you want to sample their music, you can start with *Just Like This*, *Monsterball* and *Move it Around*.



Photo Sources: Gaijin - Ethereal Mirage's Flickr account, Earthmover - Courtesy of Roxanne Bres, Others - from their respective Facebook pages

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WRITTEN BY ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY FRANCO RAYMUNDO
STYLED BY LIA CONTRERAS
HAIR & MAKE UP BY
LESLEY JANE PASCUAL



One Spicy Temptation SAI CASTRO

*Sway with this month's Asian Beauty.
Sai Castro has the stature, miles-long
legs and hypnotic eyes that would stir
your imagination.*

SHOT AT SNAPSHOTS CAFÉ STUDIO



*"Despite the rise of feminism,
despite a woman's personality
or career, a modern
gentleman respects and
appreciates his lady. It's all
about reciprocity. If you make
a woman feel better, she'll
make you feel like a man."*



You'd wish that this magazine has some sort of .GIF feature as Sai Castro, our Asian Beauty for the month of August, just can't stop herself from seductively grooving to our music during her photo shoot. Comfortable in her own skin and dominating our cameras with her hypnotic gaze, we noticed how she gently swings to the music, seemingly turned on by it as our shoot progressed.

"My mom's Latina and sings in this local Cuban cafe. So you could probably catch me there sometimes dancing salsa or mambo to the music," she answered when we asked her about this. Of course, we should have figured that out from the start as she has this distinctively graceful sway whenever she moves. She admitted that she was nervous during the first few minutes of our shoot but soon warmed up and managed to pull it off gracefully.

Born and raised here in the Philippines, but later joined her family in the US for college, Sai is a bag of beauty, sultry and brains. She graduated with honors from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and looks forward to graduate studies and a career in industrial/organizational psychology. She experienced first-hand how Asian, specifically Filipina, beauty is marveled at during her stint in the US. "I think the best word to describe it is exotic. I mean, people couldn't exactly pinpoint where I am from because Filipino features are very distinctive and different even when compared to our other Asian neighbors," she confirmed.

Unlike other brainy and career-driven women, however, she is quite a unique and interesting character. In fact, we met her at this year's ToyCon! Sai is a self-confessed Trekkie and you would have seen people gathering around to take pictures with her during the ToyCon last June. Guess what her costume is. Star Trek uniform? Surprisingly, no! She was clad in normal, civilian clothes, which speaks volumes about her appeal and how eye-catching this beauty is, given that she wasn't even cosplaying at that time.

Aside from her charm and wits, this spicy Filipina would melt you down with her enticingly spellbinding stare. The kind that would make your knees weak and buckle as you lose any semblance of balance. So, how then does one capture her attention, you ask? You know, just in case you "casually" bump into her at the Cuban cafe she frequents while still here in the Philippines. "Everybody should be comfortable with themselves because that's how they become attractive to other people," she asserted. "A modern gentleman recognizes that chivalry isn't dead. Despite the rise of feminism, despite a woman's personality or career, a modern gentleman respects and appreciates his lady. It's all about reciprocity. If you make a woman feel better, she'll make you feel like a man." 🙌









FINELY TUNED

WRITTEN BY ROBERT SORIANO
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RAYMOND SALDANA AND JEFF INFANTE
GROOMING BY FRECITA SALDANA

WHEN PEOPLE TALK ABOUT THE MUSIC INDUSTRY, THE ARTISTS ALWAYS TAKE FRONT AND CENTER. IN THIS SECTION, WE BRING TO YOU THE **UP-AND-COMERS**, THE **BUDDING NEW ARTISTS** AND THE **BANDS** THAT ARE BOUND TO MAKE IT BIG. BUT LET'S NOT FORGET THE UNSUNG HEROES THAT WORK BEHIND THE SCENES, WE ALSO INTRODUCE TO YOU THOSE WE TEND TO OVERLOOK, THE PEOPLE WHO, DESPITE BEING IN THE SHADOWS AND OUT OF THE LIMELIGHT, WORK TOWARDS THE GROWTH AND EVOLUTION OF LOCAL MUSIC. SLOWLY PROVING THEIR WORTH TO DISCERNING FILIPINO AUDIENCES, THESE NEXT FEW PAGES ARE FILLED WITH THE ARTISTS, THE MUSICIANS, THE ROCKSTARS THAT HERALD GOOD TIDINGS FOR **THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIPPINE MUSIC INDUSTRY.**



SHINJI TANAKA BEHIND THE MIXING BOARD

One might consider Shinji Tanaka a fish out of water as he has become quite the exotic creature: a successful full-blooded Japanese making a name for himself in a most foreign land, the Philippines. This often unsung and obscure sound engineer behind the albums of such bands as APO Hiking Society, Yano, Cambio, Sandwich and the Eraserheads, Shinji Tanaka brought Japanese technical acumen and ingenuity to the music production of Pinoy artists.

"Nagkaroon ako ng kaibigan na Pinoy, Pinoy band, sa Japan. 80s pa yun. Parang, ano lang, 'Uy pasyal ka naman sa lugar namin!' Unang punta ko pa lang nabighani na ako. Kasi di ba may jeep, mababait na tao, kapitbahay hindi nagagalit. Ibang-iba sa Japan e. Sa Japan kasi kapag inisip mo yung mga kapwa, napakamahiyain. Tsaka dito sa Pilipinas, laging kasama yung music. Laki ng influence ng music dito," he passionately described.

When he arrived in the country, he was immediately surprised with just how much Filipino music resonated with him. He recalled that the impact instantly made him realize that he's meant to be here.

"Parang dito ako mabubuhay," he recalled. *"Nagpagawa ako ng sariling studio.*

Nagkaroon ako ng barkada. So jamming. Bumili ako ng mga gamit sa studio. Medyo malapit sa mga estudyante kasi malapit sa mga school. Tapos may nagsabi, 'Uy dapat may recording.' So unumpisahan ko din yun. Unti-unti naging business na. Gusto ko kasi kapag may ginagawa ako, gusto ko tuluy-tuloy talaga. Ganun lang. Hindi naman talaga ako [sound] engineer, self-study lang."

And the rest, as they say, is music history. He has fully imbibed the Filipino culture and language (he was ardent about speaking in Filipino during the interview) and apart from his love of music, he has also ventured into the food industry, sharing ownership duties of a cozy katsu place in Quezon City. He claims that he is at that point in his life where music production is not about work anymore. He relishes it and considers it as the sweetest thing he could ever have.

If a full-blooded Japanese musician managed to fall in love deeply and passionately with our music and local talents, why shouldn't we? There's a lesson to be learned here; in how we should develop appreciation and hope towards our music scene. Tanaka is living proof that our music scene is captivating and, as cliché as it might sound, something we should be proud of.

ORION ACT OPM NOW

KEVIN LIM

Vocalist, Runmanila

Runmanila's music is a fusion of pop, rock, dance and electronica, making them a popular hit with the hipster crowd. The band is currently hard at work on their first full length album, set to be released this month.

JASON FERNANDEZ

Solo Artist

Known for his stint as a vocalist for Rivermaya, Jason Fernandez debuted as a solo artist in *Panimula*. Since then, he has released songs like *Maria*, *Kaya Mo Ba Akong Mahalin* and *Panaginip*.

JENSEN GOMEZ

Solo Artist

A promising solo act known for his heartfelt, sentimental compositions, *Could Have Been* and *Tulad ng Dati*, Jensen Gomez is making a name for himself with his debut album, *Umpisa*.

KIMPOY FELICIANO

Recording Artist, Online Sensation

Kimboy Feliciano's rise to celebrity is proof of the immense power of social media. Deeply connected to his fans using modern technologies, this New Zealand-based artist has been tapped as a peace ambassador by Malacañang because of his popularity online.



POCHOY LABOG

Vocalist, Malay

Pochoy Labog fronted for the now-defunct rock group Dicta License, which released the hit, *Ang Ating Araw*. He then took a hiatus from music when he decided to pursue being a lawyer. After graduation, Pochoy realized that he couldn't take music out of his system and formed Malay. Pochoy occasionally hosts for TV.

PAOLO LIM

Vocalist, The Cohens

The Cohens is a band known for their upbeat, 60's groove with a hint of modern rock. Inspired by the Beatles, the band has refreshingly brilliant songs like *She Threw Me Out* and *Tonight*.

GAB CABANGON,

Vocalist, Kaleidoscope Eyes

Kaleidoscope Eyes is all about expressing heavy themes in a light, tongue-in-cheek manner. This is evident in their songs *Cheezy* and *Bakit Guapo Lang Ang Pinagbibigyan*. Their vocalist, Gab is the son of celebrated folk singer, Noel Cabangon.

ROBERTO SEÑA

Vocalist, She's Only Sixteen

Brit-Pop influenced, *She's Only Sixteen* is the youngest band to perform at the 2013 Wanderland Music Fest.

Currently working on their first album, the band has gathered quite a following thanks to its charismatic vocalist, Roberto Seña.



NDFY.ME

INDIE-PENDENCE!

From the fallout of the Eraserheads in 2002 came an idea. An idea, so strong and momentous that it had to incubate in the minds of three individuals: brothers Glen and Gep Macadaeg and Ken Daganio. This idea – to keep the flames of Filipino music alive and thriving – is the only motivation these guys needed to start NDFY (pronounced “in-die-fy”).

Less than a year old (their site just went under beta-testing last December 2012), NDFY.me – a streaming site for the songs of local independent artists – is already proving itself as an important part of the local music scene as a platform for discovery, appreciation and support of independent local music. NDFY.me is an effort to discover Pinoy acts that will spearhead a renaissance of Filipino music not unlike the surge of artists during the 90s.

Formally launched this past June in an event called MaharLikha, an independence day celebration of independent music, the site has shown growth and potential as it boasts a growing roster of more than 170 independent Filipino artists, more than 485 songs available for streaming and an average of 20,000 page visits per month.

At first glance, the core thinkers (and doers) at NDFY.me might look suspiciously young and inexperienced. However, their youth belies a unique dedication and passion for independent Filipino music and its growth in the country.

“Pumunta ka sa malls, coffee shops. Andami-daming Filipino music

na maganda, bakit hindi yun yung pinatutugtog na kanta? Filipinos need to be aware that there are a lot of artists in the Philippines. May nabasa akong statistics tungkol sa radio sa Pilipinas last year, three out of ten songs sa radio lang ang OPM. Dalawa dun, remake. Yung isa, original. That’s the state of the Philippine music industry today,” said Glen Macadaeg.

As a group, they want to help build “an ecosystem for independent Pinoy artists to thrive in,” an ecosystem that they hope NDFY.me could be a part of. Looking forward into the future, they are already looking for ways to improve the site by partnering with other local sites, blogs, institutions, and brands, as well as adding new features and more artists in their database.

Good news is support for their site has been overwhelmingly positive. In fact, volunteers - listeners and artists alike - have already approached them to help in their endeavor. “Para samín, importante na mahal mo yung ginagawa mo, na mahal mo yung musikang Pilipino. That’s the first thing that we ask from people who want to be a part of NDFY.me,” explained Macadaeg.

Armed with their passion and love for Filipino music, the NDFY.me team is set to make a positive influence in their beloved local music industry. All they need are ears to listen in and fall in love with Filipino music again.





HEYGARCH.COM

BRAND NEW BRAND NEWS

"We're gonna go back to work now and save the music industry," Carlos Garchitorena, aka Garch, jested after our interview. Of course, he was just kidding when he said that. However, when you really think about it, HeyGarch.com and other similar websites are set-up to help the local music industry in its own little way. Not "save it", but at least give it the fighting chance it deserves.

Let's backtrack a bit. HeyGarch.com started out as an eponymous blog by Garchitorena back in 2009. Soon after, Jason Torres, chief technical officer of Proudcloud.net, reached out to him to make it a full blown website. Initially, the site simply aimed to give readers an idea about the hottest, upcoming gigs in and around the metro. Later on, it evolved to include art exhibits, workshops and other events.

A "public service", HeyGarch.com simply wants to provide a platform for sharing music and art-related events. Why is he doing this in the first place then, considering that this is a non-profit effort? "I kind of missed out on E-heads, Wolfgang, Yano and the OPM boom in the 90s. I went to college in the US so when I went back here in the Philippines, I had completely no idea who to listen to and where to go for local gigs. I started [HeyGarch.com] with music because there's always something going on in music," Garch responded.

What started out in 2009 now evolved into a site with thousands of local artists and bands and around 2,000 Facebook followers. Several years after the site's initial launch, Garch now works full time for his pride and passion. With his love towards Pinoy music leading the way, he has made a name for himself and supports the industry in his own small way.

In terms of the local music industry, Garch was vocal about the guys he thinks would push OPM to the future. Among the people he look up to are Toti Dalmacion (Terno Recordings), Rico Blanco and Dong Abay. For him, these people are very passionate and effective in pushing local music to reach new heights. Garch believes that the argument, "OPM is dead" is bullshit and poorly argued. He thinks that Filipinos need to change their mindset about the industry and hopes that the site could be helpful in creating a banner-head in supporting local artists.

He considers the site as a work-in-progress as they are currently reworking the site to add more features. Soon, they hope to create a more organized and detailed directory of artists, add more critical and "sober" analysis of gigs, and more editorial content. "I don't think there's a finish line for HeyGarch.com and what it can be," he explained. "We want to give every independent artist a chance."



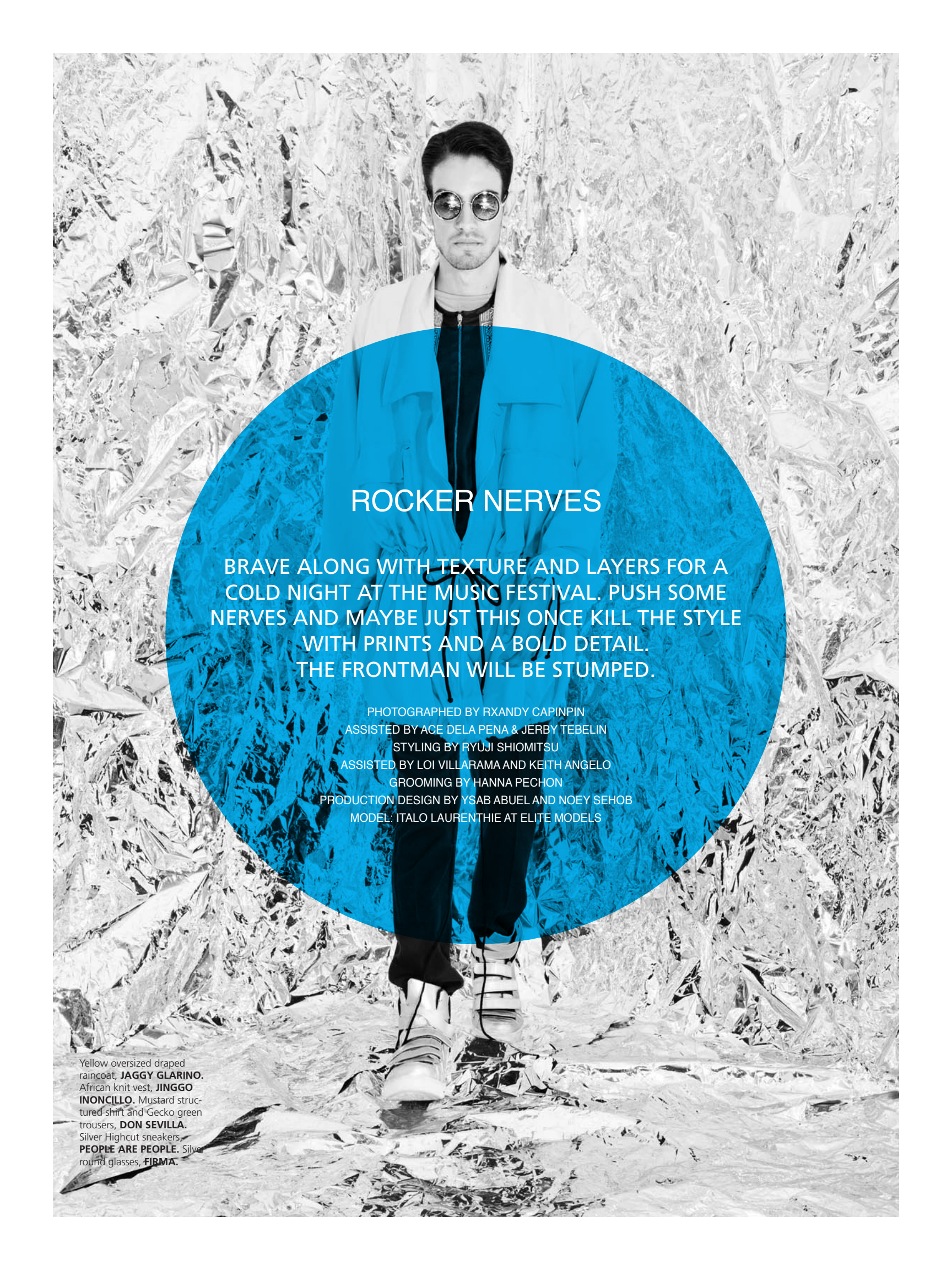
MALAY

SUBTLE INTENSITY

A brainchild of vocalist/guitarist Pochoy Labog, bassist Miguel Dayanghirang, and drummer Alden Abaca, Malay hopes to fuse all the good things about the 90s music – grunge and alternative rock – with the diversity that is soul, jazz, hiphop and blues. Their sound promises of smooth flowing melody, interlaced with punches of intensity. As expected from Pochoy, the lyrics are consciousness and thought provoking, urging the listener to look in.

Last year, the band released an independent album under no labels. With nine tracks of original compositions, *Your Year* was made available through their bandcamp.com account. This year, they are slowly gaining momentum and has been performing in local bars and venues. Currently, their main singles are *Moving*, *Halina*, *Anak ng Diyos* and *Lundag*.

With Pochoy – who has already proven himself in the critically-acclaimed rock act, *Dicta License* – at the helm, we believe that this band would go places if we just surrender ourselves to their soothing yet contrastingly hard-hitting sound.



ROCKER NERVES

BRAVE ALONG WITH TEXTURE AND LAYERS FOR A
COLD NIGHT AT THE MUSIC FESTIVAL. PUSH SOME
NERVES AND MAYBE JUST THIS ONCE KILL THE STYLE
WITH PRINTS AND A BOLD DETAIL.
THE FRONTMAN WILL BE STUMPED.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY RXANDY CAPINPIN
ASSISTED BY ACE DELA PENA & JERBY TEBELIN
STYLING BY RYUJI SHIOMITSU
ASSISTED BY LOI VILLARAMA AND KEITH ANGELO
GROOMING BY HANNA PECHON
PRODUCTION DESIGN BY YSAB ABUEL AND NOEY SEHOB
MODEL: ITALO LAURENTHIE AT ELITE MODELS

Yellow oversized draped
raincoat, **JAGGY GLARINO**.
African knit vest, **JINGGO**
INONCILLO. Mustard struc-
tured shirt and Gecko green
trousers, **DON SEVILLA**.
Silver Highcut sneakers,
PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE. Silver
round glasses, **FIRMA**.



Gray knit pullover, **DOLCE & GABBANA**. Indian-cotton print button-down polo, **JINGGO INONCILLO**. Giga Birdskull harness and Omenbird magnetic earrings both, **OS** (www.os-accessories.com).



White sheer Vitruvian Man
print pullover and Camouflage
windbreaker both, **ARNOLD**
GALANG. Black waistcoat,
LYLE IBANEZ. Silver structured
drop-waist pants, **JEFFREY**
ROGADOR. Gray brogues,
MILANOS. Neptune Cap, **OS**
(www.os-accessories.com)
Black/white oversized knit
scarf, **JEROME LORICO**.

Cargo button down polo
and Red Indian cotton print
trousers with belt both,
JINGGO INONCILLO. Gray
knit tank top, **JEROME**
LORICO. Black/White
oversized knit scarf, **JEROME**
LORICO. Black acrylic frame
glasses, **VIKTOR AND ROLF**
(Les Lunettes des Paris).
Gray brogues, **MILANOS**.





Pina Husi Barong with
flower embroidery,
GERRY KATIGBAK.
Black and White scarf,
JEROME LORICO.
Silver round metal
glasses, **FIRMA**.
NEPTUNE Hologram
Cap, **OS** ([www.os-
accessories.com](http://www.os-accessories.com))

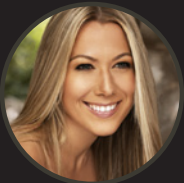
FROM THE WEB TO OUR PLAYLISTS

WORDS BY EIZEN BARLETA



JUSTIN BIEBER

The mother of the most-followed Twitter superstar uploaded a video of her son singing Chris Brown's *With You* in 2007. Music promoter Scooter Braun discovered the talent of the then 12-year-old Canadian boy and flew Bieber to Atlanta to record demo tapes. The rest is history.



COLBIE CAILLAT

Colbie Caillat auditioned for American Idol with her original piece *Bubbly*. She got rejected by the judges. Little did they know that the same song will make her a web sensation. Colbie's friend uploaded her *Bubbly* video in MySpace and garnered thousands of views. To date, she has won two Grammy Awards for her collaborations with Taylor Swift and Jason Mraz.

REALITY SHOWS ARE SO YESTERDAY. FOR SOME TO GET FAMOUS TODAY, THEY DON'T NEED TO HAUL THEMSELVES TO AUDITIONS FOR A CHANCE AT STARDOM, BIG THANKS TO YOUTUBE AND MYSPACE. THE POPULAR VIDEO-SHARING SITES HAVE EMERGED AS VENUES FOR TALENTED PEEPS TO SHOWCASE THEIR GOOD STUFF TO THE WORLD.

1. PSY

PSY owns the most viewed YouTube video: the music video for his hit song, *Gangnam Style*. The choreography of the Korean entertainer caught the attention of the international media and Scooter Braun, the same talent scout that discovered Justin Bieber, signed him to Schoolboy Records thereafter.

2. SOULJA BOY TELL 'EM

The website SoundClick served as the starting ground for Soulja Boy. He posted his music there, and upon receiving praises from listeners, he created a YouTube account that made a producer sign him for an album. In 2007, his song *Crank That* was Grammy-nominated for Best Rap Song.

3. GREYSON CHANCE

This tween's claim to fame is his performance video of another Lady Gaga track. Ellen Degeneres discovered him via YouTube and signed him to her recording label. Now, Greyson is traveling around the world to share his young but impressive talent.

4. REBECCA BLACK

Rebecca Black is considered as one of the most mocked YouTube stars. The notoriety of her song *Friday* led its music video to an award: the #1 video of 2011 on YouTube.

Katy Perry's *Last Friday Night* is a nod to this teenager's dubious hit.

5. ZENDEE

Also known as that "Random girl of SM Megamall", Zendee was already joining contests prior to her popularity. A YouTube user recorded a video of her singing *I Will Always Love You* by Whitney Houston, and uploaded it to the web. The clip went viral and prompted Zendee to be featured in several local magazine shows before Ellen Degeneres invited her on her show. Warner Music Philippines signed her on as a recording artist.

6. AJ RAFAEL

After failing to enter American Idol when he was 16, AJ Rafael achieved success by posting original compositions on YouTube. He is now considered an internet celebrity with almost 500,000 YouTube subscribers. Two of his most popular songs are *Without You* and *We Could Happen*. AJ released a full-length album in 2011.

7. MARIE DIGBY

The singer-musician's popularity soared after promoting her music via YouTube. She covered Rihanna's hit *Umbrella* which attracted massive attention from web surfers. The track was played on several radio stations around Los Angeles. At the peak of the success of her cover, Hollywood Records signed her in 2005.



THE GOLDEN AGE OF OPM: MANILA SOUND

WORDS BY ROBERT SORIANO

JOSE MARI CHAN

One of the more important male solo artists in the Philippines, Jose Mari Chan is perhaps best known for the songs *Can We Just Stop* and *Talk A While* and *Beautiful Girl*. In 1990, he released the album, *Christmas in Our Hearts* which reached triple platinum.

FLORANTE DE LEON

Folk-pop artist who recorded the inspirational song, *Handog*, he is also known for hit songs like *Ako'y Isang Pinoy*, *ABaKaDa*, and *Sana*.

A GENRE THAT BEGAN IN THE EARLY 1970S, MANILA SOUND SWEEPED THE NATION WITH ITS DISTINCTIVELY CATCHY AND MELODIC LYRICS. DISCO INFLUENCED SONGS, LAID-BACK AND NO-FUSS SOUND. THE GENRE PEAKED DURING THE MID AND LATE 70S BUT SLOWLY FADED BY THE 80S.



SHARON CUNETI

Pop singer turned Megastar Sharon Cuneta started out as a teen idol in 1979 when she released a Rey Valera composition, *Mr. DJ*. She also covered *I-swing Mo Ako*, a VST & Co. original. Her two other singles which got big were *Kahit Maputi Na ang Buhok Ko* and *High School Life*.

RICO J. PUNO

Acclaimed soul balladeer who had hit songs like *Damdamin*, *May Bukas Pa*, *Kapalaran*, *Macho Gwapito*, and *Sorry Na Puede Ba*. Even after the decline of Manila Sound, he remained popular with the emerging OPM genre.

REY VALERA

Rey Valera is a singer-songwriter known for releasing romantic ballads like *Kung Kailangan Mo Ako*, *Maging Sino Ka Man*, *Malayo Pa Ang Umaga*, *Pangako Sa Iyo*, and *Kahit Maputi Na ang Buhok Ko*.

CAN'T HIDE THAT PINOY PRIDE

WORDS BY EIZEN BARLETA

BEING THE TALENTED RACE THAT WE ARE, FILIPINOS DOMINATED THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE WITH THESE ASTOUNDING MUSICAL ACTS.



CHARICE PEMPENGCO

Dubbed by Oprah as "the most talented girl in the world", Charice released several albums including *Charice*, her first international album. The said album gained popular attention making Charice the first solo Asian act to land in the Top 10 of the Billboard 200 chart. Among her hits is *Pyramid*, her most popular single to date.

apl.de.ap

Composing one-fourth of the famous pop group The Black Eyed Peas, the Pampanga native talent, whose screen name is derived from his real name Allan Pineda Lindo, is more focused on making music for genres like hip-hop and electro. Currently, he's one of the coaches of the Philippine franchise of *The Voice*.



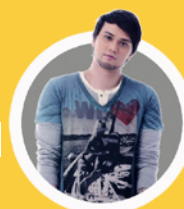
CHRISTIAN BAUTISTA

As other Pinoy acts dominate the West, Christian Bautista made his move by ruling South East Asia instead. The balladeer conquered Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia by having sold a huge number of albums in these countries.



Billy Crawford

Billy Crawford was first noticed internationally when he released his 1999 album, *Billy Crawford*. It went straight to the charts in the Philippines and some European countries like France and Switzerland. After the European invasion, Billy tried to gain fame in the United States. He contributed a remix of the theme song of Pokémon's first movie.



VANESSA HUDGENS

Hudgens is best known as Gabriella, the main protagonist in Disney's *High School Musical*. She was then signed to a recording label and has produced songs that ranked high in many music charts.

ARNEL PINEDA

He gained international fame in 2007 when he was chosen as the lead singer of the American rock band Journey. His first album with the band achieved platinum status.

JESSICA SANCHEZ

The Mexican-Filipina prodigy stole the spotlight when she became a finalist in *American Idol*'s Season 11. After her *Idol* stint, she was invited to attend several musical events and was even invited to appear on *Glee*. She released her first solo album earlier this year.

NICOLE SCHERZINGER

The sexy and sultry half-Filipina was chosen to be the frontwoman of the now-defunct girl group, Pussycat Dolls. Aside from her musical career, she also took the acting path. She was also a former judge of a popular reality show in the US and in the UK. Although born in Hawaii, she always recognizes her Filipino roots.

LEA SALONGA

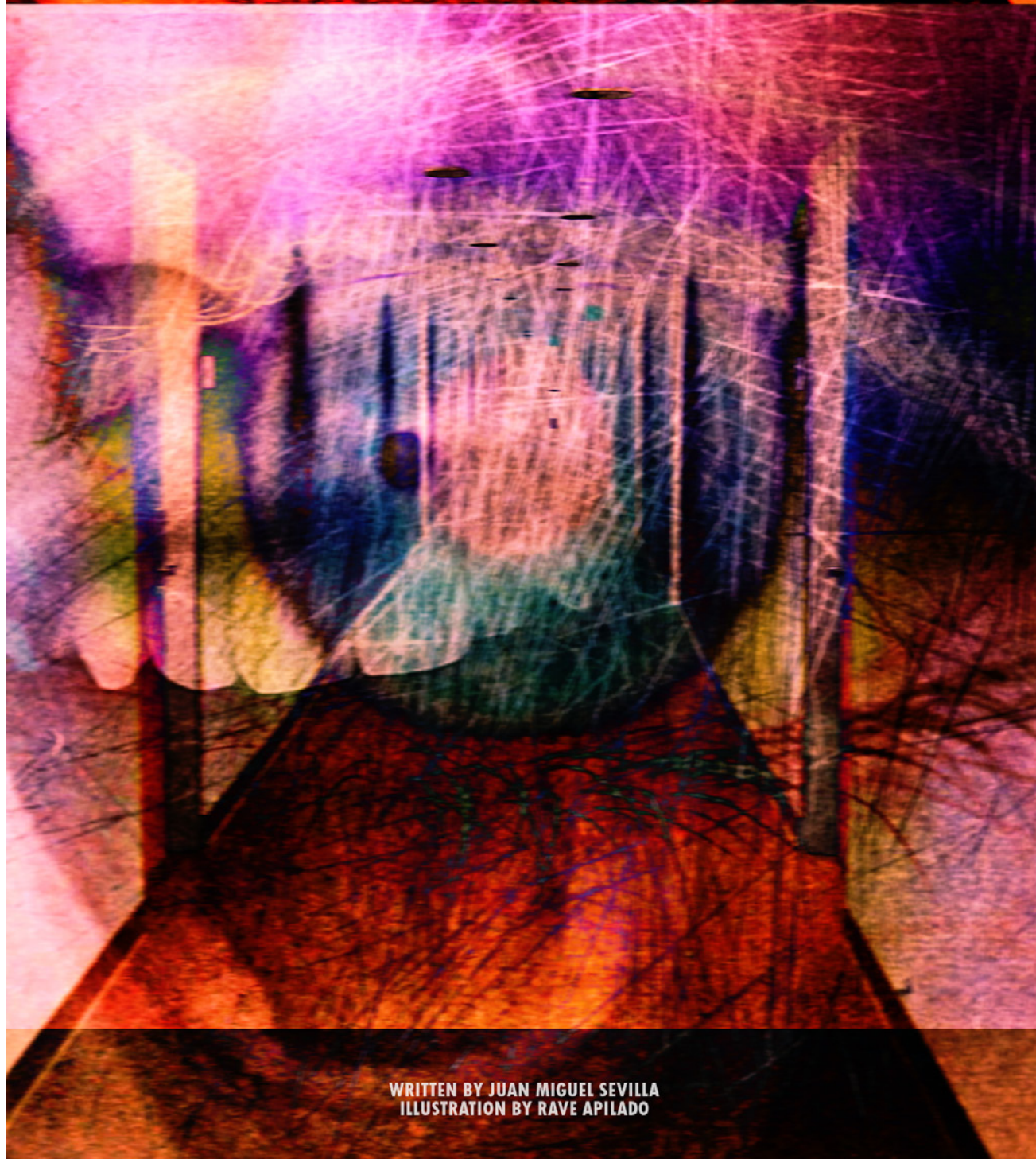
The singer-actress is most popularly known for playing the role of Kim in the initial run of the musical *Miss Saigon*; a role for which she won an Olivier and Tony award. She is also the first Asian actress to play the roles of Eponine and Fantine in the musical *Les Misérables*.

LANI MISALUCHA

Since arriving in Las Vegas in 2004, Lani made waves in the international industry. She was even voted "Best Singer" at the 27th Annual Best of Las Vegas poll by the Las Vegas Review Journal. And would you believe Las Vegas' mayor made her status more precious by announcing December 4 as Lani Misalucha Day?



THE WATCHERS



WRITTEN BY JUAN MIGUEL SEVILLA
ILLUSTRATION BY RAVE APILADO

THEY WERE TALL, SKINNY OLD MEN WITH RED EYES. I REMEMBER I WAS SO SCARED THAT I TOLD MY MOM ABOUT IT. SHE SAID THEY WERE OUR GUARDIAN ANGELS. BUT YOU HAD ANOTHER NAME FOR THEM. YOU CALLED THEM THE WATCHERS.

For a second there, I thought the rains finally stopped. It had been pouring non-stop over this area of the metro - the filthy part, which made the water welcome if not necessary - for nearly two days now.

The rain brought two things: ridiculous traffic and no classes in schools. Teachers like me take no shame in rejoicing with their students. I was nearly at the taxi station when I got the text. Classes were again suspended. "Let's just carry over the lecture we were supposed to give to the next school day," it said.

"Adjust," an all-too common word used now within our faculty.

With work cancelled, the prospect of raiding into my downloaded movies felt like a relief, though from what, I don't know. I trudged back to my condominium building, mercifully just a block or two away. Heading up to the building, the security guard tells me the elevators are out of order.

Whatever time I saved from the short walk to the building, I made up for the long hike back up to my unit. I blame my former fiancée, who wanted an 18th floor apartment because of the "view" and who promised we would share the apartment for at least a year. Two months in, she gets a job abroad, leaves the country and I'm left alone paying for a two-bedroom unit with a view, with a promise of me moving there with her once I find a job.

It's been two and a half years since then.

The hallway smelled of slowly cooking rice. It reminded me I had nothing inside my apartment, save for a few packs of chips. The fridge never really recovered after she left.

As I reached my door, there was

an envelope peeking from under the doormat. It's the same kind of envelope I've been receiving for the past 4 days. A brown, recycled type of paper - the kind I used to put my grammar exercises in, pre-electronic tablets.

The contents have all been the same: a strange sentence taken out of context. The first one read, "...he held no space between the boats."

The second one read, "She arrived on the third of June."

The third one was much more cryptic, "north of here" it read. No punctuation.

I reported the first couple of letters to the building management. Thinking it was a prank, we reviewed the CCTV camera in the hallways and found no one dropping the letters off at the time that it should have been dropped off. They seemed to materialize out of thin air.

This time, the envelope felt like it contained more than a single piece of paper. The paranoia has already come and gone, replaced by an irritating curiosity to find out when the next envelope is going to arrive and what's inside.

There were 10 pages of handwritten text inside the envelope. I poured through the sheets and a strange feeling came over me. I've seen these words before. Here is what seems to be a chapter taken out of a novel. Maybe something I've read before?

It wasn't long until I realized where I've seen those words. It was the third straight day of raining. Classes were suspended once more and I'm left to discard old files from my closet. Some unused test questions, drafts of essays, etc. It was three binders full that amounted to my years in teaching.

But there was a fourth binder. I haven't seen it in years. I opened it up and there it was: a manuscript I had started back when I was in college. My attempt at writing a novel. It wasn't brilliant in any sense; not even particularly good. Seeing it now, it read like words splattered on a page, much like the envelope I received.

I racked up my brain for answers—no one knew this manuscript existed. I wrote it alone and yet here I am holding a handwritten copy of a chapter contained in it. I called up everyone I remember from college and every writing workshop I ever attended; all came up with nothing.

There was only one person left that I could have sent it to. It was a conversation that I was trying to avoid.

I mustered up the courage to call up my fiancée, asking her if I ever sent her a copy of the manuscript. To her it was a surprise. "You call me in the middle of the night to ask me about some story you never finished years ago?" Sometimes, I forget about the time difference.

"Mark, when was the last time you showed anyone anything you've ever made?"

She had a point. I hate it when she has one.

"Hey, I'm sorry it's taking this long," I told her. There was silence on the other line.

"Another school there rejected my application," I told her. This time, not silence but a sigh.

"Let's just try again and wait," she replied calmly. Sometimes I forget how lucky I am.

"Alright, before I go back to bed, I do remember the only time you told me a story when we were kids. It's about the people that lived

among us but aren't seen. They somehow avoid people by always being in the right place at the right time. They see everything. They know everything. You told me you were the only one who can see them. They were tall, skinny old men with red eyes. I remember I was so scared that I told my mom about it. She said they were our guardian angels. But you had another name for them. You called them the watchers."

It all sounded vaguely familiar. And so it happened that on the third day of rain, an unfinished novel finally caught up with me after all these years. It's not that difficult after all once I abandoned urgency for comfort.

Days passed and I'm left with this: a doorway that spewed fragments of a work I may never finish, pieces of a story I couldn't get through. The envelopes may never stop arriving but I'm eager to see what happens next.

Finally the rains stopped, and so did the envelopes, much to my disappointment. But exactly a month after it all happened, I received another one. It was the same brown, recycled paper like the ones that came before it.

I opened it and inside was a photograph. It was of me, while I was opening the first envelope outside my apartment. It looked as if it was taken from the end of the hallway, behind the fire extinguisher. I looked around to see if anyone was there.

I thought I saw a tall shadow walk past but then again, it could have been my imagination.

Outside, there was a quick rumbling in the sky. A quick clap of thunder. Just then, I thought I heard the rain fall again. 

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DAVID BOWIE

Continued from page 63

PLAYBOY: Why, at a time when nobody else in rock would have dared allude to it, did you choose to exploit bisexuality?

BOWIE: I would say that America forced me into it. Someone asked me in an interview once—I believe it was in 1971—if I were gay. I said, “No, I’m bisexual.” Seventy-one was a good American year. Sex was still shocking. Everybody wanted to see the freak. There was very little talk of bisexuality or gay power before I came along. When they told me that a drag-queen cult was forming behind me, I said, “Fine, don’t try to explain it; nobody is going to bother to try to understand it.” I’ll play along, absolutely anything to break me through. All the papers wrote volumes about how sick I was, how I was helping to kill off true art. In the meantime, they used up all the space they could have given over to true artists. That really is pretty indicative of how compelling pretension is, that it commanded that amount of bloody writing about what color my hair was gonna be next week. I want to know why they wasted all that time and effort and paper on my clothes and my pose. Why? Because I was a dangerous statement.

The follow-up to that, now that I’ve decided to talk a little more—if only to you—was, “How dare he have such a strenuous ego?” That, in itself, seemed a danger to some people. Am I, as a human being, worth talking about? I frankly think, Yes, I am. I believe myself with the utmost sincerity.

PLAYBOY: But aren’t you having trouble getting other people to believe you? Take, for example, your well-publicized farewells to showbiz. You’ve retired twice, swearing you’d never have another thing to do with rock and roll. Yet you’ve just finished a six-month world concert tour, promoting your newest rock-and-roll album, *Station to Station*. How do you rationalize these contradictions?

BOWIE: I lie. It’s quite easy to do. Nothing matters except whatever it is I’m doing at the moment. I can’t keep track of everything I say. I don’t give a shit. I can’t even remember how much I believe and how much I don’t believe. The point is to grow into the person you grow into. I haven’t a clue where I’m gonna be in a year. A raving nut, a flower child or a dictator, some kind of reverend—I don’t know. That’s

what keeps me from getting bored.

PLAYBOY: What else do you do to keep from getting bored?

BOWIE: You name it.

PLAYBOY: How about drugs?

BOWIE: What year is it now? Seventy-six?

I suppose I’ve been knocking on heaven’s door for about 11 years now, with one sort of high or another. The only kinds of drugs I use, though, are ones that keep me working for longer periods of time. I haven’t gotten involved in anything heavy since 1968. I had a silly flirtation with smack then, but it was only for the mystery and enigma of trying it. I never really enjoyed it at all. I like fast drugs. I hate falling out, where I can’t stand up and stuff. It seems like such a waste of time. I hate downs and slow drugs like grass. I hate sleep. I would much prefer staying up, just working, all the time. It makes me so mad that we can’t do anything about sleep or the common cold.

PLAYBOY: How much have drugs affected your music?

BOWIE: The music is just an extension of me, so the question really is, “What have drugs done to me?” They’ve fucked me up, I think. Fucked me up nicely and I’ve quite enjoyed seeing what it was like being fucked-up.

PLAYBOY: Then you agree with the reviewer who called your *Young Americans* album “a fucked-up LP from a fucked-up rock star”?

BOWIE: Well, *The Man Who Sold the World* is actually the most drug-oriented album I’ve made. That was when I was the most fucked-up. *Young Americans* probably is a close second, but that is from my current drug period. *The Man* was when I was holding on to some kind of flag for hashish. As soon as I stopped using that drug, I realized it dampened my imagination. End of slow drugs.

PLAYBOY: That doesn’t sound much like the guy who was recently busted in upstate New York for possession of eight ounces of marijuana.

BOWIE: Rest assured the stuff was not mine. I can’t say much more, but it did belong to the others in the room that we were busted in. Bloody potheads. What a dreadful irony—me popped for grass. The stuff sickens me. I haven’t touched it in a decade.

PLAYBOY: In the song “Station to Station,” though, you do refer to cocaine—

BOWIE: Yes, yes. The line is “It’s not the side effects of the cocaine...I’m thinking that it must be love.” Do the radio stations bleep it out?

PLAYBOY: None that we’ve heard. Did you have any reservations about using the line in the song?

BOWIE: None whatsoever.

PLAYBOY: One might easily construe it as advocating the use of cocaine. Or is that the message?

BOWIE: I have no message whatsoever. I really have nothing to say, no suggestions or advice, nothing. All I do is suggest some ideas that will keep people listening a bit longer. And out of it all, maybe they’ll come up with a message and

save me the work. My career has kind of been like that. I get away with murder.

PLAYBOY: You claim you like to work all the time, yet you release only one album a year. What exactly do you do between recording sessions?

BOWIE: I write songs and screenplays and poems, I paint, I do Kirlian photography, I manage myself, I act. I produce, I record, sometimes I tour. I could give you five new and unreleased David Bowie albums right now. I could just hand them over. I've got an incredible backlog of material. Work, work, work....

PLAYBOY: Do you ever relax?

BOWIE: If you're asking whether or not I take vacations, the answer is no. I find all my relaxation within the context of work; I'm very serious about that. I've always thought the only thing to do was to try to go through life as Superman, right from the word go. I felt far too insignificant as just another person. I couldn't exist thinking all that was important was to be a good person. I thought, Fuck that; I don't want to be just another honest Joe. I want to be a supersuperbeing and improve all the equipment that I've been given to where it works 300 percent better. I find that it's possible to do it.

PLAYBOY: Surely you doubt yourself sometimes.

BOWIE: Not so much anymore. About two years ago, I realized I had become a total product of my concept character Ziggy Stardust. So I set out on a very successful crusade to reestablish my own identity. I stripped myself down and took myself apart, layer by layer. I used to sit in bed and pick on one thing a week that I either didn't like or couldn't understand. And during the course of the week, I'd try to kill it off.

PLAYBOY: What was the first thing you attacked?

BOWIE: I think my lack of humor was the first thing I picked on. Then prissiness. Why did I feel that I was superior to people? I had to come to some conclusion. I haven't yet, but I dug into myself. That was very good therapy. I spewed myself up. I'm still doing it. I seem to know exactly what makes me sad.

PLAYBOY: Doesn't taking yourself apart all the time tend to make you a little schizophrenic?

BOWIE: The four of me will have to talk about that. Am I schizophrenic? One side of me probably is, but the other side is right down the middle, solid as a rock. Actually, I'm not schizophrenic at all. I think that my thought forms are fragmented a lot, that much is obvious. I often think of six things at one time. They all sort of interrupt one another. Not very good when I'm driving.

PLAYBOY: Do you ever have trouble deciding which is the real you?

BOWIE: I've learned to flow with myself. I honestly don't know where the real David Jones is. It's like playing the shell game. Except I've got so many shells I've forgotten what the pea looks like. I wouldn't know it if I found it. Being famous helps put off the problems

of discovering myself. I mean that. That's the main reason I've always been so keen on being accepted, why I've striven so hard to put my brain to artistic use. I want to make a mark. In my early stuff, I made it through on sheer pretension. I consider myself responsible for a whole new school of pretensions—they know who they are. Don't you, Elton? Just kidding. No, I'm not. See what I mean? That was a thoroughly pretentious statement. True or not, I bet you'll print that. Show someone something where intellectual analysis or analytical thought has been applied and people will yawn. But something that's pretentious—that keeps you riveted. It's also the only thing that shocks anymore. It shocks as much as the Dylan thing did 14 years ago. As much as sex shocked many years ago.

PLAYBOY: You're saying sex is no longer shocking?

BOWIE: Oh, come on. Sorry, Hugh. Sex has never really been shocking; it was just the people who performed it who were. Shocking people, performing sex. Now nobody really cares. Everybody fucks everybody. The only thing that shocks now is an extreme. Like me running my mouth off, jacking myself off. Unless you do that, nobody will pay attention to you. Not for long. You have to hit them on the head.

PLAYBOY: Is that the Bowie success formula?

BOWIE: That's always been it. It's never really changed. For instance, what I did with my Ziggy Stardust was package a totally credible, plastic rock-and-roll singer—much better than the Monkees could ever fabricate. I mean, my plastic rock-and-roller was much more plastic than anybody's. And that was what was needed at the time. And it still is. Most people still want their idols and gods to be shallow, like cheap toys. Why do you think teenagers are the way they are? They run around like ants, chewing gum and flitting onto a certain style of dressing for a day; that's as deep as they wish to go. It's no surprise that Ziggy was a huge success.

PLAYBOY: But you've said that you find rock depressing and sterile, even evil.

BOWIE: It is depressing and sterile and, yes, ultimately evil. Anything that contributes to stagnation is evil. When it has familiarity, it's no longer rock and roll. It's white noise. Dirge. Just look at disco music—the endless numb beat.

PLAYBOY: You say it's dirge, yet you had the biggest disco hit of last year in "Fame," and you scored again this year with "Golden Years." How do you explain that?

BOWIE: It's a lovely escapist's way out. I quite like it, as long as it's not on the radio night and day—which it is so much these days. "Fame" was an incredible bluff that worked. I'm really knocked out that people actually dance to my records, though. But let's be honest; my rhythm and blues are thoroughly plastic. Young Americans, the album "Fame" is from, is, I would say, the definitive plastic soul record. It's the squashed remains of ethnic music as it survives in the age of Muzak rock, written



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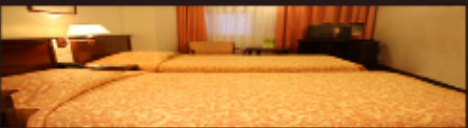
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and sung by a white limey. If you had played Young Americans to me five years ago and said, "This is an R&B album," I would have laughed. Hysterically.

PLAYBOY: What did you think of Barbra Streisand's recording your song "Life on Mars"?

BOWIE: Bloody awful. Sorry, Barb, but it was atrocious.

PLAYBOY: You're not noted for cordial relationships with other artists. Yet there was the rumor that you flew to Europe to spend a sabbatical with Bob Dylan. What about it?

BOWIE: That's a beaut. I haven't even left this bloody country in years. I saw Dylan in New York seven, eight months ago. We don't have a lot to talk about. We're not great friends. Actually, I think he hates me.

PLAYBOY: Under what circumstances did you meet?

BOWIE: Very bad ones. We went back to somebody's house after some gig at a club. We had all gone to see someone, I can't remember who, and Dylan was there. I was in a very, sort of...verbose frame of mind. And I just talked at him for hours and hours and hours, and whether I amused him or scared him or repulsed him, I really don't know. I didn't wait for any answers. I just went on and on about everything. And then I said good night. He never phoned me.

PLAYBOY: Did he impress you?

BOWIE: Not really. I'd just like to know what the young chap thought of me. I was quite convinced that what I had to say was important, which I seem to feel all the time. It's been quite a while since somebody really impressed me, though.

PLAYBOY: Some psychiatrists would call your behavior compulsive. Does the fact that there is insanity in your family frighten you?

BOWIE: My brother Terry's in an asylum right now. I'd like to believe that the insanity is because our family is all genius, but I'm afraid that's not true. Some of them—a good many—are just nobodies. I'm quite fond of the insanity, actually. It's a nice thing to throw out at parties, don't you think? Everybody finds empathy in a nutty family. Everybody says, "Oh, yes, my family is quite mad." Mine really is. No fucking about, boy. Most of them are nutty—in, just out of or going into an institution. Or dead.

PLAYBOY: What do they think of you?

BOWIE: I haven't a clue. I haven't spoken to any of them in years. My father is dead. I think I talked to my mother a couple of years ago. I don't understand any of them. It's not a question of their understanding me anymore. The shoe's on the other foot.

PLAYBOY: Are you still obsessed, as you reportedly once were, with the fear of being assassinated onstage?

BOWIE: No. I died too many times onstage, man. And it's really not too bad. No, I don't have that paranoia anymore. I've now decided that my death should be very precious. I really want to use it. I'd like my death to be as interesting as my life has been and will be. And

being assassinated is not quite a hero's demise. Assassination is the...the snub. The Great Snub. It's the ultimate result of that Wilhelm Reich philosophy—nobody will be allowed to be any more than we are—that most people subscribe to in their hearts. People aren't very bright, you know. They say they want freedom, but when they get the chance, they pass up Nietzsche and choose Hitler, because he would march into a room to speak and music and lights would come on at strategic moments. It was rather like a rock-and-roll concert. The kids would get very excited—girls got hot and sweaty and guys wished it was them up there. That, for me, is the rock-and-roll experience.

PLAYBOY: How is your relationship with Elton John these days?

BOWIE: He sent me a very nice telegram the other day.

PLAYBOY: Didn't you describe him as "the Liberace, the token queen of rock"?

BOWIE: Yes, well, that was before the telegram. I'd much rather listen to him on the radio than talk about him.

PLAYBOY: Do you feel you've been taken advantage of over the years?

BOWIE: Not taken advantage of. Exploited.

PLAYBOY: Are you suggesting you haven't made all that you should have?

BOWIE: What, moneywise? Oh, Lord, no—we made nothing. All I've made is an impact and a change, which, of course, is worth a lot. I keep telling myself that. The best thing to say about it all is that it's archetypal rock-and-roll business. Read the reports of the Beatles, the Stones and a lot of other big entertainers and take some kind of amalgamation of all that; it's a pretty accurate picture of my business. John Lennon has been through it all. John told me, "Stick with it. Survive. You'll really go through the grind and they'll rip you off right and left. The key is to come out the other side." I said something cocky at the time like, "I've got a great manager. Everything is great. I'm a 1970s artist." The last time I spoke to John, I told him he was right. I'd been ripped off blind.

PLAYBOY: You're not a rich man? After five gold albums?

BOWIE: Now, yes, exceedingly. No! Wait, America! Not at all. Haven't got a penny to my name. I'm pleading poverty at the moment, but I'm potentially very rich. Theoretically rich but not wealthy.

PLAYBOY: Are you as bitter about the music business as Lennon and Mick Jagger have said they are?

BOWIE: No, no, no. You see, I needed to learn about it. You've got to make mistakes. It's very important to make mistakes. Very, very important. If I glided through, I wouldn't be the man I'm not today.

PLAYBOY: Last question. Do you believe and stand by everything you've said?

BOWIE: Everything but the inflammatory remarks. 

Excerpted from the September 1976 issue.

WORLD OF PLAYBOY



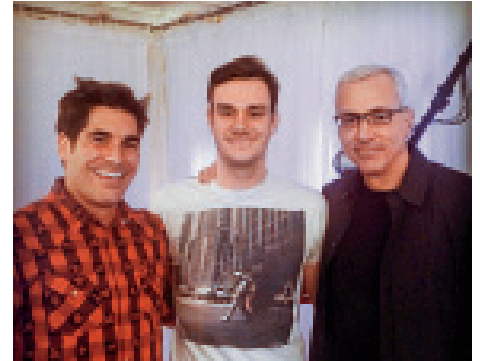
Miss April 2013 Jaslyn Ome Graffiti Girl

It's not every day you see a beautiful Playmate juxtaposed against graffitied walls, let alone rocking a flat-brimmed ball cap. But isn't this a good look for Jaslyn Ome? The folks at independent clothing brand Stache House follow Jaslyn on Instagram, and they asked if she might consider modeling for their summer look book. Jaslyn decided to give it a go. "It was really cool," she says.

Be on the lookout for Miss April 2013 here on the pages of PLAYBOY Philippines, soon.

LOVELINE

Cooper Hefner sat in with Mike Catherwood and Drew Pinsky on the venerable sex-advice radio show Loveline.



GIRLTALK

Comedian Ben Hoffman really hit it big in a recent episode of The Ben Show on Comedy Central. Why? He went on a blind date with Miss June 2007 Playmate Brittany Binger! Why can't all blind dates turn out like that?



HANGING WITH HEF

RAQUEL POMPLUN IS PLAYMATE OF THE YEAR

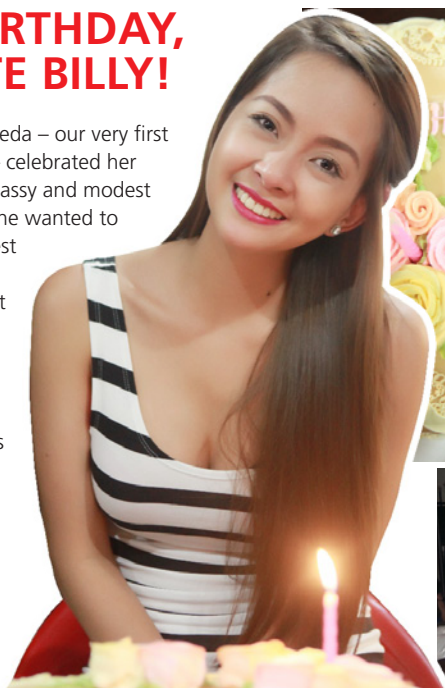
"This Playmate of the Year is a winner in every way," Hef said in as he introduced the first Mexican-American PMOY and gave her the keys to a Jaguar F-Type. Raquel Pomplun thanked Hef and her Playmate sorority during a sunny luncheon at the Playboy Mansion.



PLAYMATE UPDATE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PLAYMATE BILLY!

Just last July, Billy Abeleda – our very first Playmate of the Year – celebrated her birthday. Always the classy and modest Playmate that she is, she wanted to celebrate in the simplest way possible in the company of her closest friends and PLAYBOY Philippines family. Of course, her wish is our command. The presence of her friends made the occasion lavish as the rest of her Playmate friends gathered at Opus Bar, Resorts World Manila. Happy birthday, Playmate Billy!



THE GIFT OF LIFE

At some point in our lives, priorities shift and we seek a different sort of fulfillment and happiness. For Playmates Allysa and Jewelle that fulfillment, new adventure if you will, is starting their own families. As milestones like these are important in the PLAYBOY family, Playmates Billy, Jobie, Gypsy, Suyen, and Naomi organized a baby shower for the gorgeous moms-to-be. Congratulations to Playmates Allysa and Jewelle! Stay healthy!



PLAYMATES MEET RISING STARS

Last July, PLAYBOY Philippines got invited at the grand launch of the GMA Artist Center's website. Held at the Fort Strip in Taguig, the event was attended by GMA executives as well as other celebrities and artists. Also present during the event were your gorgeous Playmates: Playmate Nicole, Billy, Jobie and Grey.





PLAYBOY PHILIPPINES INVADES REPUBLIC

Many asked why we partied last July at the Republic Club, but the real question is why is that such a surprise? That's what we do! Seriously though, our July-August issue as well as the website was introduced that night. No, it's not a 'formal' event. We're just having good, clean fun – Playmates, booze and all.



SEPTEMBER 2013 / ISSUE NO.54

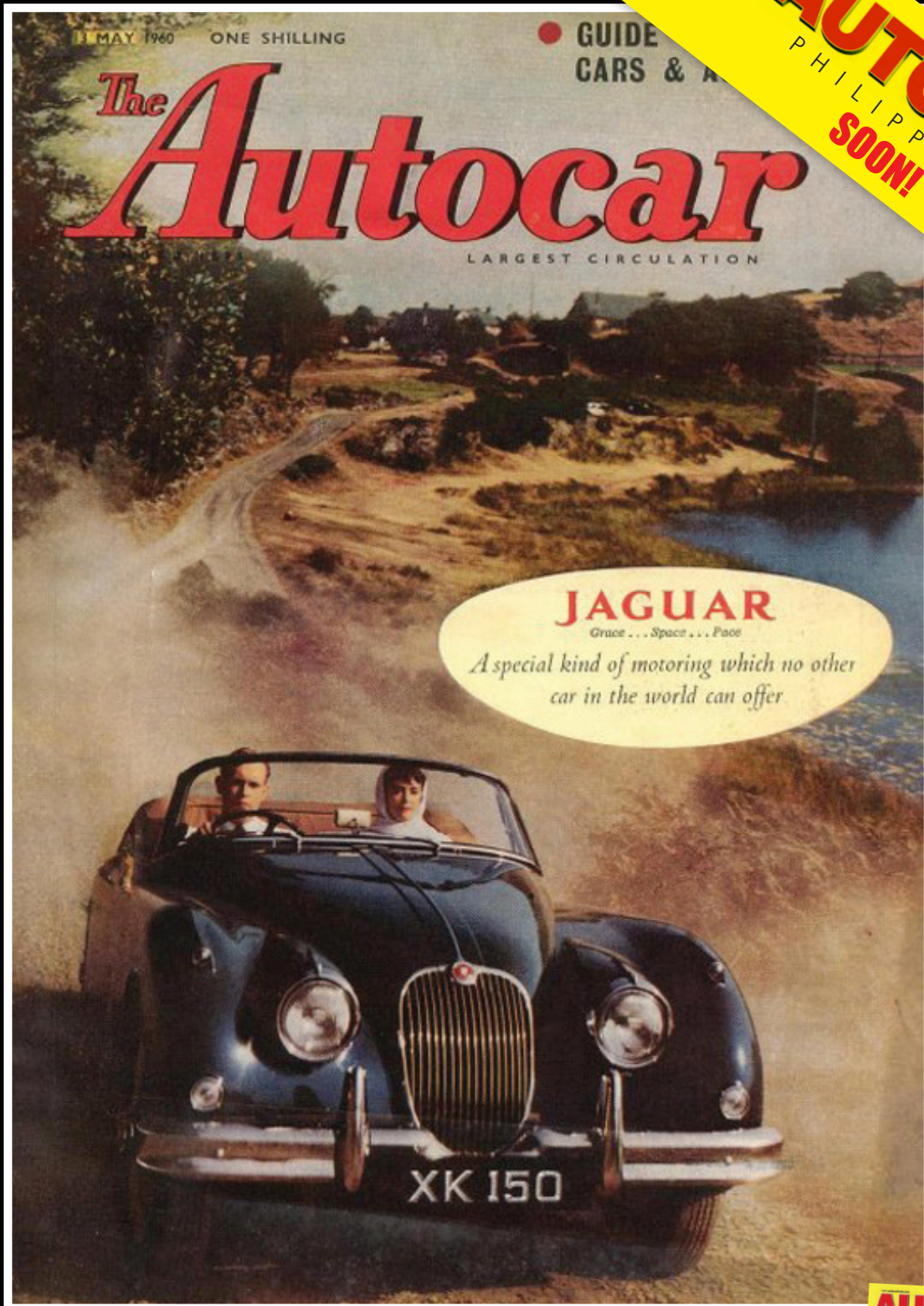
RECALL

PLAYBOY ISSUE SEPTEMBER 1975



As a historic and world-renowned brand, PLAYBOY has made significant contributions to iconic magazine design as well as relevant content which still serve as benchmarks for other younger magazines. PLAYBOY Recall looks back at those moments in history and how PLAYBOY became a part of that cultural era.

PLAYBOY'S 1975 ISSUE FEATURED POET AND AUTHOR, ERICA JONG AS WELL AS AMERICAN FOOTBALL ALL-STARS ARCHIE GRIFFIN, JOE WASHINGTON, ED SIMONINI, LEROY SELMON. MORE IMPORTANTLY, AMY ARNOLD'S LUSCIOUS DERRIÈRE GRACED THE ISSUE'S COVER SPREAD IN THE SIMPLEST BUT ALL THE MORE ENTICING WAY.



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